



DR. EDWINA ROBINSON



One of the highlights of the State WMU Convention was the presentation of a check of appreciation for \$9,020.00 to Dr. Robinson (right) by Mrs. Vernon May, Louisville, state WMU president. This gift comes from hundreds of societies and many individuals.



Several leaders at State WMU Convention have moment of fellowship between sessions. From left: Dr. Joe Tuten, host pastor; Mrs. James Fancher, Aberdeen, author of the book, "Where Is Edwina?"; Dr. Edwina Robinson; Miss Alma Hunt, Birmingham, speaker; Mrs. Vernon May, Louisville, president, and Dr. Claude Rhea, Jr., Birmingham, song leader and soloist.

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92nd Annual Meeting: Mississippi WMU

"Forward To Christ" Is The Theme

By Anne Washburn McWilliams
"Forward to Christ" was the thrilling theme of the ninety-second annual meeting of the Woman's Missionary Union of Mississippi on March 23 and 24. Hymns, devotional messages, addresses, special music were keyed to that theme. "Forward to Christ, all ye people! March, march today!"

This majestic phrase from the new anthem, "Forward to Christ," sounded forth at the beginning and close of each session as Dr. Claude Rhea stepped to the microphone.

This year's convention was at Calvary Church, Jackson — of particular significance because Dr. Edwina Robinson, executive secretary of the Woman's Missionary Union of Mississippi since 1944, is a member of that church. Hundreds of women from every section of the state, and visitors from many other states, filled the auditorium. They came to drink deep of the

refreshing springs of missionary vision that always gush up with vigor at the time of WMU Convention. And they came to do honor to Dr. Robinson (their own "Miss Ed"), one whose whole life has been centered on the challenge of the Great Commission: "Go ye . . . and teach all nations." Though Miss Robinson is retiring on May 1 as executive secretary she (not surprisingly) plans to stay busy in the missionary task. Another article in this issue tells of her plans to help the Baptists of New York in establishing a statewide WMU program.

Miss Marjean Patterson, who will on May 1 become executive secretary of Mississippi WMU, was assisted by the WMU Executive Board and the WMU staff in planning the special programs for Tuesday evening and Wednesday afternoon honoring Miss Robinson. (See the adjoining story which gives more details on these programs.)

"Look, do you see that lady over there on the second row?" — one woman whispered to another on Wednesday afternoon. "That's Wilda Fancher. She writes 'Beyond the Ironing Board' for the Baptist Record — and I would never miss reading her column for anything! Her husband, James Fancher, is pastor at Aberdeen, you know, but I understand he plans soon to begin a full-time preaching ministry."

That same Mrs. Fancher, in her delightfully inimitable style, had written a 115-page biography of Miss Robinson. The new book, "Where Is Edwina?" was presented on Tuesday evening. (See the editorial page for a review of this book.)

Miss Robinson became youth secretary for Mississippi Woman's Missionary Union in 1933, and ten years later began her 27 years of service as executive secretary. For this convention at the climax of her years with the Baptist Convention Board, she was invited to bring the devotional talks. Subjects she chose for her very effective messages were "Forward to Christ . . . In Being," "Forward to Christ . . . In Knowing," "Forward to Christ . . . In Sharing," and "Forward to Christ . . . In Doing."

Magnificent music played no small part in the making of this year's convention. Dr. Claude Rhea, professor at Samford University, and musician of worldwide renown, was song director and soloist. Dr. Rhea has led the music for revival crusades in Indonesia and Taiwan and other countries, and last summer directed the

music at the meeting of the Baptist World Alliance in Tokyo. Because of his talent and because of a life committed to Christ, he has a way of lifting the audience through song upward toward God. "We've a story to tell to the nations . . . we've a Savior to show to the nations . . . who the path of sorrow hath trod, that all of the world's great people might come to the truth of God." As these words filled the sanctuary, the presence of the Holy Spirit was a precious and undeniable reality.

Still further adding to the spirit of reverence and worship were the periods of meditation when Mrs. Harold Boston of Richmond played hymns on the marimba. Strains of "The Old Rugged Cross," "Something for

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The State WMU Convention last week reelected officers for the coming year. From left: Mrs. Carey Cox, Clinton, vice-president; Mrs. Vernon May, Louisville, president; Mrs. D. P. Godman, Jackson, recording secretary, and Miss Sue Tatum, Yazoo City, assistant recording secretary.

"Church-State" Before Court

WASHINGTON, D. C. (C-SNS) — Calling three cases currently pending in the Supreme Court "the most important church-state cases in 20 years," Glenn L. Archer, executive director of Americans United for Separation of Church and State, said that the decisions could determine the shape of church-state relations for a long time to come. The text of the Archer statement follows:

"Three cases now before the Supreme Court are the most important church-state cases in 20 years. The cases — one from Pennsylvania, one from Connecticut, and one from Rhode Island — raise the issue of the constitutionality of government grants to church schools. The decisions in these cases could determine the shape of church-state relations in the United States for a long time to come.

"Ever since the Everson case in 1947, the concept has been firmly determined that direct grants by govern-

ment to churches or church schools would violate the 'no establishment' clause of the First Amendment. In the McCollum, Zorach, Torcaso, Engel and Schempp cases this interpretation of the First Amendment has been reiterated. Any permissible benefits to students in sectarian schools were strictly limited to health and safety benefits as, for example, transportation.

"Now we have the issue of direct

government subsidy to sectarian schools squarely before the Court. If we are to retain our own tradition and revert to the kind of church-state union of former times and civilizations, the Court should unequivocally say so. The Court should announce the break clearly and honestly. On the other hand, if we are to resist the mounting clerical pressures for church school subsidies, we need a clear reaffirmation of separation of church and state from the Court."

Graham Urges 'Aid' To Church Schools

CLEVELAND (RNS) — Evangelist Billy Graham said here that he favors "some creative solution" to aid what he described as "religious oriented" schools.

The famed Southern Baptist preacher said the answer to the problems of church-related schools might be "dual enrollment, tax rebates, or tuition grants to be used where (the parents) please, assuming that (the school) is racially integrated."

"No child," the evangelist said, "ought to be involuntarily subjected to educational processes that will corrupt his religious heritage. There must be true freedom of choice and that choice must include Christian and

Jewish schools that take students regardless of skin color."

Other major topics covered by Mr. Graham in a talk at the annual banquet of the Northern Ohio region of the National Conference of Christians and Jews:

—Anti-Semitism: "I warn you that, as in the Soviet Union, secularization will lead to a rising tide of anti-Semitism and ultimately anti-Chris-

tianity. Many have been surprised that the new anti-Semitism rising in America comes from the far left.

"I am not surprised. Much of the far left is secularistic, humanistic and even atheistic. It is intolerant towards any kind of faith in God. This push towards secularization must be halted and reversed if democracy and freedom are to survive in this country."

—Moral Awakening: "We need a

spiritual awakening that will not only dynamically influence the social and political life of this country," he said, "but the deepest needs of our youth. 'I believe that God is calling us to this kind of an awakening. I believe that a nation steeped in the Judeo-Christian scriptures offers more national security than the costliest array of armaments, the strongest military alliance, the wisest statesman-

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Lottie Moon Gifts

Total \$14,823,688

As Of March 24

A total of \$14,823,688.00 has been received by the Foreign Mission Board from the Convention's recent Lottie Moon Christmas Offering for Foreign Missions.

The figure was reported as of March 24 by Everett Dean, Treasurer of the Board, to Dr. W. Douglas Hudgins and Dr. John Lee Taylor, members of the Board from Mississippi.

According to Mr. Dean, it is likely that the final figure will exceed the total of last year by several hundred thousand dollars. Remittances to the Board will continue through May if former patterns continue.

"If local church treasurers have monies accumulated through this special offering still in hand I would urge them immediately to send them to our State office so they can be forwarded at once to the Foreign Mission Board," said Dr. Hudgins, Executive Secretary - Treasurer.

Graham Challenged By Jimmy Allen

WASHINGTON, D. C. (C-SNS)—Dr. Jimmy R. Allen of San Antonio, Texas, president of Americans United and the Baptist Convention of Texas, has challenged Dr. Billy Graham's recent statement that parents who send their children to parochial schools should be excused from paying taxes for public schools. Also, Dr. Graham's endorsement of various forms of public aid to parochial schools. Dr. Allen's statement follows:

"We lament the mistaken reasoning of this towering leader of Ameri-

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State Student Conference To Be Held April 23-25



Brad Castleberry



S. L. Harris



Jack Greever



Emery E. Smith

The annual Mississippi Baptist Student Leadership Training Conference will be held at Camp Garaywa and Mississippi College April 23-25.

Brad Castleberry, student at Mississippi college, president, will preside.

Local Baptist Student Union officers from 30 schools and colleges in the state are expected to attend, according to Rev. Ralph B. Wadsworth, Jackson director of the Department of Student Work of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, sponsor.

Principal out-of-state speakers will be Jack Greever, associate State BSU director, Baptist General Convention of Texas, Dallas; S. L. Harris, assistant professor of sociology, Tarrant County Junior College, Hurst, Texas, and Emery Smith, associate

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Forward To Christ

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Thee," "Why Should He Love Me So?" "Ready," and other hymns poured from the instrument in tones of liquid beauty. The maker of this music lives in Richmond, Va. Her late husband, Dr. Harold Basden, was formerly pastor of Calvary, Jackson. The Basdens left the state in 1953 when he accepted a Texas pastorate. At the time of his death he was serving with the Foreign Mission Board, in Richmond.

Mrs. Bob Simmons of Meridian was organist for the convention and Mrs. James Richardson of Leland was pianist.

Mrs. Vernon May (wife of the pastor of First Church, Louisville) as state WMU president did an excellent job of presiding. In introducing each speaker she would carry on a bit of dialogue with the person being introduced, bringing out sidelights of humor and human interest.

She introduced the mothers of Mississippi missionaries (their pictures are shown on page 2). And then she introduced "the mother of Miss Ed," Mrs. Prudie Robinson, and announced that a plaque will be posted at Camp Garaywa in appreciation of Mrs. Robinson's years of service as dietitian there (1941-1971).

She introduced and expressed appreciation for Mrs. Willie Schotte, member of the WMU staff who will retire on October 1. Mrs. Schotte, who is secretary to Miss Ed and book-keeper for Camp Garaywa, has been an employee of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board since 1954.

Standing at the platform, each speaker appeared against the glow of a softly lighted world map. These speakers represented mission fields in many countries.

Sammy and Sue Simpson, missionaries to Ecuador, suggested that women can help the missionaries by (1) praying intelligently, by reading not only religious magazines, but by keeping informed on world affairs and world needs and by teaching their children to do the same; (2) visiting the mission fields, as a visit to a mission field never fails to fill a person with more concern, more understanding, more caring.

Rev. and Mrs. Dolton Haggan introduced Rev. and Mrs. Homer Gibson, Choctaw pastor and wife, Macedonia Church, New Choctaw Association. The four, in a question-and-answer session, discussed the mission work among the Choctaws in Mississippi. Mr. Haggan said, "Mississippi Indians are moving forward to Christ because the Choctaw Christians are busy and faithful witnessing to and serving their own people."

Mrs. David Fite, daughter of Rev. and Mrs. Herbert Caudill, spoke on "Surviving Under Communism." Her father and husband were imprisoned by the Communists in Cuba but later released. Mrs. Fite said, "We don't have TIME to FIGHT Communism. They know all about how to destroy, and we don't have time to learn their techniques of destruction. The only way to overcome Communism is through Christ, through Christianity, through prayer to God."

Dr. Clark Hensley, executive director, the Christian Action Commission, Jackson, spoke on the subject, "Fruitful Faith." (Excerpts from his speech appear on page 2.)

Rev. and Mrs. James Gilbert talked of the mission in Ecuador that once seemed impossible, but with God proved possible. Mrs. C. W. Applewhite said, "I saw God do it—He performed a miracle in Indonesia!" When Communists were just at the point of taking over the country, Indonesia was swept with revivals that have brought hundreds of converts to Jesus Christ. The threat of Communism, through a miracle, was averted. Mrs. Guy Henderson talked of unexpected opportunities that have come for witnessing in Korea.

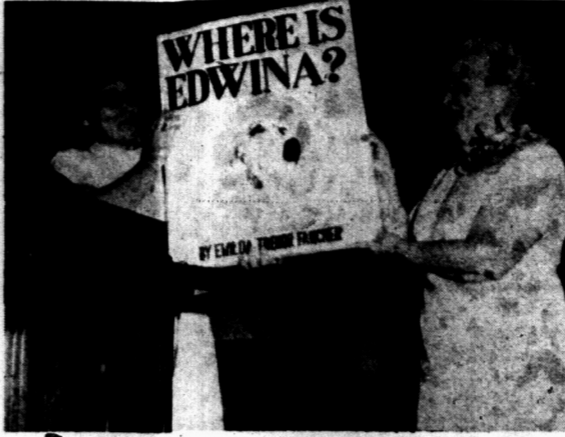
Miss Alma Hunt, executive secretary, WMU, SBC, gave two keynote messages. "Go Forward," her Tuesday morning subject, was the motto of the first WMU annual meeting in 1888, as set forth by Annie Armstrong. Miss Hunt said, "I am tired of discouraged, defeated people. We must believe in the job we are undertaking. We must abandon the loser's philosophy. We must crush under our feet the apathy which too often characterizes our society or even our church membership. We must rise up from our laziness and excuse making. Moving toward the possible, we must believe in something rather than against something." She then went on to list some of the things she believes in. "I believe in Jesus Christ. I believe in the church he organized or established. I believe in the ultimate triumph of the church. I believe that nothing we do in the name of Jesus Christ is ever lost and that everything we do contributes to the ultimate triumph of the church. I believe the missionary mandate is given to individ-

An Expression Of Thanks

How can one adequately express appreciation? Really I can't express it but will seek to live it in the days ahead, even as I have through the years. Mississippi Baptists in general and Women's Missionary Union in particular have kept me in their debt because of their continuing faith in me and walking with me in the tasks we have sought to do together in the name of our Lord. No person has ever had finer, more cooperative folk with whom to work than have I.

Many of you shared in and made possible the wonderful experiences that were mine during the WMU Convention. Scores of others who were not present helped to make possible many of the expressions of love to me—letters, telegrams, telephone calls, flowers, love gift of money. To all of you, in every church, who shared in any way in the pouring out of your love and appreciation—may I say "Thank you."

Edwina Robinson



Hundreds Of Women Gather At Missionary Convention

Mothers of Mississippi missionaries (photo at top left) were introduced at the WMU Convention, at Calvary, Jackson, March 23-24. Front row, 1 to 4: Mrs. D. L. Johnson, Mrs. Martin J. Gilbert, Mrs. W. C. Buie, Mrs. J. I. Rankin, Mrs. W. H. Goynes, Mrs. R. T. Buckley. Back row, 1 to 4: Mrs. L. E. Viverette, Mrs. J. Henderson, Mrs. C. O. Trenor, Sr., Mrs. Maurice Martin, Mrs. Joe Canzoneri, Mrs. Lewis Myers, Mrs. C. C. Applewhite. A GIANT FACSIMILE (photo at top right) of the biography, WHERE IS EDWINA? By Edwida Trenor Fancher, was presented to Dr. Edwina Robinson, right, retiring WMU Executive secretary, by Marjean Patterson, left, who is to be her successor. HUNDREDS from every section of the state attended the reception (photo at bottom left) in Fellowship Hall, Calvary, Jackson.

Tuesday evening, March 23, honoring Dr. Robinson. MRS. ARCHIE JORDAN (in bottom right photo) who is confined to a wheelchair, traveled over 100 miles to be present for the reception. Mrs. Jordan, still active in WMU, says of Miss Ed: "We've been friends for years. Her Christian life has helped us all be better servants for our Master." Mrs. Jordan's granddaughter, Judith Ann Fortenberry, at right in the picture, a MC student, portrayed Miss Ed in the program, "Where Is Edwina?" (Her father, Rev. Claude Fortenberry, is pastor of Pine Grove, Jones County.) Judith's mother, second from left; her grandfather, a left; and Mrs. John C. Zachary, second from right, accompanied Mrs. Jordan to Jackson for the convention.

ing among the Baptist women of the world."

Dr. James Belote, the Foreign Mission Board's secretary for East Asia, delivered two major addresses: "Forward in East Asia," and "Forward through Commitment." Just as Dr. Belote is a hard-working, effective missionary, so is he an inspired speaker. In illustration after illustration, he told of mission advance in the Orient—in South Korea, in Taiwan, in Hong Kong, in Japan. He said:

"People ask: Why go to Japan, and other countries in the Orient? They have their religions. Why get them to change? WE GO BECAUSE, APART FROM JESUS CHRIST, MEN ARE LOST!! The only hope for eternal life, the only hope for peace, is through Jesus Christ."

"I have never seen missionaries try to ram their religion down anybody's throat. But they go because they LOVE and because they are convinced that apart from Jesus Christ, men are lost."

"Why do we put emphasis on

the material things, possessions, jobs, relationships, affairs of this world? Why are these things so important to us? Why do we go on giving them first place—when in humility we know we are ourselves sinners saved by grace? Why do we not put the most important things FIRST??? And do all we can to help men who are lost, without Christ?"

"In East Pakistan only—there are 75,000,000 people without Christ. The majority of these have never EVEN HEARD the NAME of Jesus."

"Fire in the apartments of newly arrived missionaries in Korea destroyed all their personal belongings. Did the two couples come home? Are they giving up? No! They are committed—they went to tell the people there about Jesus. And they plan to stay."

"WE ARE NOT OUR OWN; WE HAVE BEEN BOUGHT WITH A PRICE. WHAT WE ARE AND WHAT WE HAVE BELONGS TO CHRIST. We have FORGOTTEN Jesus said, 'Deny self, take up your cross, and follow me.'"

tion, primarily in Mississippi.

By faith, for many years, the W.M.U. enjoyed, almost alone, the privilege of giving these special mission offerings. But after being stoned, sown as under and wandering about tormented and afflicted, Thanks be to God, their faith has inspired others so we can report gifts through the past four decades of about \$9,000,000 to the Lottie Moon Offering, 3 1/4 million to the Annie Armstrong Offering, and 1 1/4 million to State Missions—for a total of almost \$16,000,000.

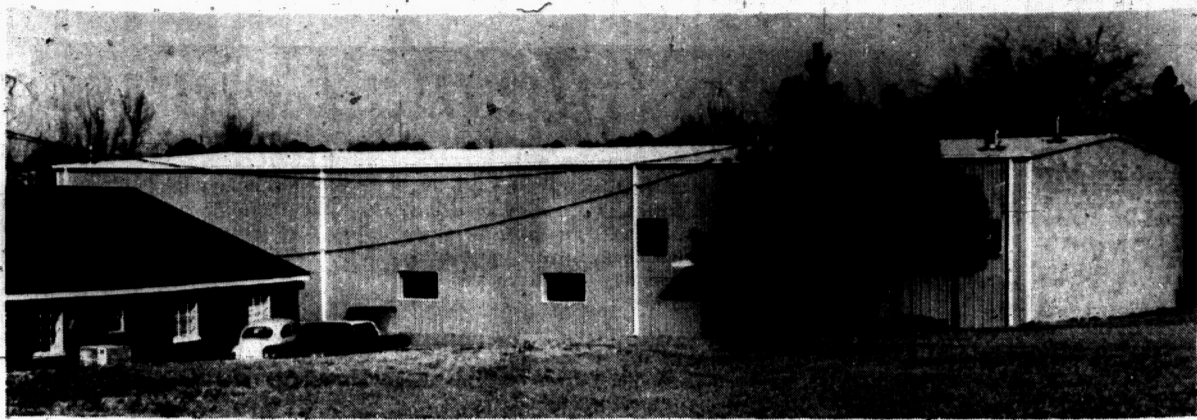
Indeed you have excelled in this grace also!

How can we translate this into schools, hospitals, evangelism, day care, rescue missions, work among the red, yellow, black and white—around the world? Impossible for us, but not for God who rewards the faithful whose faith is fruitful as yours has been.

No, what of the future of Mississippi Baptists?

"With all these witnesses of faith around us like a cloud, we must throw off every encumbrance, every sin to which we cling, and run with resolution the race for which we are entered, our eyes fixed on Jesus on whom faith depends from start to finish."—NEB Hebrews 12:1

Fruitful Faith—for the future!



Miracle Building To Be Dedicated At McDowell Road

"They said it couldn't be done"—a full sized Activities Building for less than \$60,000. The McDowell Road Church, Jackson, will dedicate such a building Sunday, April 4. Special music program to begin at 2:00 o'clock, featuring the McDowell Road Church Youth Choir. Dedication services at 2:30. Special speaker will be John Bewley, Director of Activities of Broadmoor Church, Jackson. This is a 65 ft. by 115 ft. steel building, fully sealed inside. It has a full sized basketball court that is used for skating, tennis, volleyball, basketball, etc. It has a recreation office, bathrooms and large game room

on the second floor level. These areas are centrally heated and air conditioned. This building has been completed for a cash cost of \$57,000. This miracle cost was made possible by the men of the church doing most of the interior furnishings. This building offers facilities for a full time program of recreation and church activities. General activities are under the direction of Rev. Johnny Speedling, Jr., Associate Pastor. Rev. John C. Hilbun is pastor. Churches interested in this type building are especially invited to this dedication service.

Graham Urges Church School Aid

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ship and the most painstaking diplomacy."

Religious education in schools: Mr. Graham called for a drive against the secularization of the U.S. and for some form of religious education in the schools. "I am totally against the state imposing set forms of prayer or demanding that all pray. But students should have the right to pray silently on a voluntary basis or to repeat prayers used in the Supreme Court or before Congress."

"I also believe that the Bible should be read in public schools, limited even to the Ten Commandments. Our children need to know there is a moral law. I am alarmed by the zeal of some clergymen, Catholic, Protestant and Jewish, to secularize America."

The evangelist came here to accept the International Brotherhood Award presented by the NCCJ's Northern Ohio region. It was his only public appearance since his operation for a salivary gland ailment in Minnesota, and the only one he plans through early April. He has been recuperating in Florida.

Dr. Sterling W. Brown, NCCJ's national president, cited Mr. Graham on behalf of the brotherhood of man under the fatherhood of God; for his selfless devotion to individual dignity; for his untiring work to overcome bigotry, and for his steadfast belief in man's obligation to his fellow man."

The international brotherhood award, last presented to the then Prime Minister Lester Person of Canada in 1962, was made by Thomas Vall, publisher and editor of The Cleveland Plain Dealer. Among the speakers were Dr. Brown; Sen. Robert Taft (R-Ohio), Rep. James V. Stanton (D-Ohio) and Rep. J. William Stanton (R-Ohio).

In his talk, featured by appeals for religious education for America's young and for the independent schools, Mr. Graham stressed that he was "totally" committed to the separation of church and state.

"However," the evangelist said, "our public schools have been so influenced by antagonistic, unbelieving secularists that I believe my children and grandchildren would be greatly benefitted by attending religiously oriented schools where God is revered, respected and honored."

"Religious oriented schools all over the country are threatened with bankruptcy due to the lack of funds. If they fail it will place an enormous burden upon the public school system that is already overburdened."

"It seems wrong in principle for people to be taxed to support truly secular education while at the same time having to pay for educating their children in church schools. Americans should not be required to propagate religious beliefs they do not believe in, but Protestant, Catholic and Jewish Americans are now helping to pay for materialistic, atheistic teaching that they do not believe in—and in some instances the teaching is anti-Christian and anti-Semitic."

"I call tonight for some creative solution to this complex problem, perhaps through dual enrollment, tax rebates or tuition grants to students, to be used where they please, assuming it (the school) is racially integrated."

During his stay here, the evangelist said, he was considering a crusade at Kent State University where four students were slain by National Guardsmen during a demonstration last year. "In the last two years," he said, "campus crusades have become

Enrollment in U. S. universities and colleges has more than doubled in the last ten years, despite sharply higher fees.

Some 700,000 families have their own in-ground, backyard swimming pools, about 300,000 of which were built in 1960 alone. Another 3-million families have above-ground, tank-type swimming pools.

Americans in 1970 spent an estimated 38 billion dollars on vacation expenses, 6 billion of which went for trips abroad.

our best and biggest and most effective crusades."

Mr. Graham admitted that the "institutional church has sinned through much of its history and has much to answer for at the Judgment."

"In the ancient synagogues of Israel upon the completion of the reading of any of the Books of Moses, it was the custom for the congregation to exclaim, 'Be strong, be strong, and let us strengthen one another.' In like manner when we see each other under the enemy's attack, let us encourage and strengthen one another."

"I would say to both Christian, black and white, and Jew tonight: 'Be strong, be strong. And let us strengthen one another.'"

Graham Challenged

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can evangelism on the subject of tax support for parochial schools. The White House is known to favor federal aid to parochial schools. I fear that the close relationship between Dr. Graham and the President has clouded the issues in Dr. Graham's reasoning. I would hope that he could disengage himself in order to examine more objectively the results of this reasoning.

"To excuse parents of parochial school pupils from paying public school taxes ignores the fact that public schools have never been sustained by taxes levied upon parents as such. They are sustained by taxes levied upon the entire public. People with no children at all have always been required to pay taxes for schools, just as those who do have children. Those who have never called upon the police or fire department must still pay taxes for their services."

"Education is, in fact, the most important public service the nation offers. Admittedly, our education problems are difficult and complex. We appreciate Dr. Graham's interest in these problems but feel that the course he recommends would be harmful to public education, would promote sectarian divisiveness and violate the religious conscience of Americans."

"Natural High" To Be Presented In Jackson City Auditorium April 16

"Natural High" — a folk musical about God's Son — by Ralph Carmichael and Kurt Kaiser, will be presented in the City Auditorium, Jackson, on April 16 by "The Revelation" from First Church, Jackson.

The 8 p.m. performance will be directed by Larry Black, minister of music at First Church, who has been designated as one of the premiere directors of the musical. He was invited several months ago to the premiere performance of the Carmichael - Kaiser show in Waco.

The musical, featuring more than 100 high school and college singers from First Church, will attract groups from around the state and neighboring states. Tickets will be \$1.00 for students and \$1.50 for adults. They may be purchased at First Baptist Church. Advance group reservations from out-of-town groups may be made by calling or writing to Black.

"Natural High" is described as a "folk musical about God's Son" for youth choir and soloists. Already it has been hailed as a landmark work within an emerging new art form — a form so novel it still can't be adequately categorized.

The show's youthful cast employs 22 songs styled in a variety of moods to create the world's newest setting for the Gospel. Their message is biblical and profoundly serious; their vehicle is pulsating, nonstop folk rock.

The show's title alludes to today's drug-oriented ideas. Young people are urged to try a "natural high" — the Reality that is Christ. A matter-of-fact and logical approach, hip dialogue, subtle satire and songs comparable to tomorrow's top 40 combine with some of Hollywood's most innovative techniques to create a musical

which puts down preach propaganda and promotes "groovy reality."

"Tell It Like It Is," an earlier Carmichael - Kaiser religious musical in a similar idiom caused a furor in both sacred and secular circles when it appeared about three years ago. It brought folk rock into conservative churches. More importantly perhaps, it took the Church out into the world — shopping centers, and beaches — as countless thousands of American youths joined church choirs to produce what at that time was a revolutionary new concept in church outreach.

"Tell It Like It Is" made organized religion, experts on youth and entertainment world personalities alike, sit up and take stock. It played to paying audiences of thousands in cities and towns across America.

In 1970, the musical made history when NBC-TV featured it on a one-hour network special starring the Kurt Kaiser Singers, the first religious musical ever produced on any American network. An outpouring of more than 10,000 congratulatory letters let network officials know this country still believes God is alive.

"Natural High" written in response to demands for another musical similar "Tell It Like It Is" comes on much stronger, according to its composers. It demands talented singers and instrumentalists and utilizes strong rhythms, "soul singing", and sophisticated timing, lighting, and choreography to achieve a fast-building stage piece that almost seems to soar like a rocket.

Ralph Carmichael has composed and arranged musical for several Billy Graham films and the current production of "The Cross and The Switchblade." He has worked with such performers as the late Nat King Cole, Roger Williams, Peggy Lee and the King Family.



Larry Black, right, minister of music at First Church, Jackson is shown with Ralph Carmichael, left, composer of "Natural High" when Black was invited to be one of the nation's premiere directors of the folk musical which he will direct in Jackson on April 16 in city auditorium.

State Student

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secretary, department of special ministries, Home Mission Board, Atlanta.

Conference music director will be Billy Jack Green, minister of music, First Baptist Church, Columbia.

All general meetings will be at Nelson Hall Auditorium at MC and all Saturday sessions will be at the college as well as all meals at the MC cafeteria.

Lodging will be at Camp Garaywa. Picnic supper at Garaywa Friday will be prepared by MC BSU as well as Sunday morning breakfast—drinks, doughnuts and pastries.

Programs Friday night and Sunday morning will be at Camp Garaywa. The conference will open Friday evening at 7:00 o'clock and close Sunday morning at 10:45 o'clock.

Friday night's session will feature the message by Mr. Greever.

Saturday morning's session will feature a message by Mr. Harris and a series of "Workshops I and II" with outstanding conference leaders to lead in discussion of current BSU activities and involvements.

Saturday afternoon's session will continue the workshops and include a business meeting and other features.

Saturday night's session will center on missions and a message by Emery Smith.

Sunday morning's session will be concluded with a message by Mr. Greever.

be rendered by the choir from Prentiss Institute and a combined state choir.

About 500 students are expected for the retreat.

Joining the Seminary in sponsoring the Retreat is the Sophia Sutton Assembly and the Department of work With National Baptists of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson.

Student Meet Sponsored By Seminary Set Apr. 2-4

The annual State Baptist Student Retreat sponsored by the Mississippi Baptist Seminary will be held at Sophia Sutton Mission Assembly near Prentiss April 2-4.

"God's Call to College Students" will be the theme of the meeting to begin at 4:00 p.m. Friday with registration and adjourn Sunday morning following the sermon by Dr. Wm. P. Davis, director of Work With National Baptists of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, Jackson.

The keynote address Friday evening will be delivered by Albert Calvin, Jr., National Missionary Chairman, Jackson State College.

Presiding will be Melvin Willis, vice-president of the State Student Convention and a student at Coahoma Junior College.

Music will be under direction of Miss Emma Cooper, of Jackson State College and director of music for the convention.

Special music will be rendered by the Inter-faith Choir of Jackson State College.

Welcome will be extended by Dr. S. L. Richmond, director of Sophia Sutton Assembly and remarks are scheduled by Dr. T. B. Brown, president of the Seminary.

Saturday afternoon's session will be featured by a business session, with a report of all committees, including nomination, talent show, resolutions, and time - place, and a banquet.

The Queen Pageant and Talent Show will feature Saturday evening's session.

The interpretation of the theme will be given by groups from various colleges in the state.

Special music Sunday morning will

Gospel Radio Beams At China

WHITTIER, Cal.—Progress is on schedule for construction of a 250,000 watt medium wave station to be directed into Red China. The facility is Phase One of a million-dollar undertaking of the Far East Broadcasting Company. A similar station will be constructed on Luzon in the Philippines.

Bethany Takes Stand On The Side Of Law And Order

Bethany Church, Jeff Davis County, (Rev. Charles Gordon, pastor) has passed the following resolution on the importance of law and order. (They express the hope that other churches will take a stand on law enforcement, and the fear that there is generally apathy on the part of the many people in this important matter.)

"Whereas, we the people of Bethany Church, Prentiss, Jefferson - Davis County, believe that government is ordained of God, and is necessary for the proper maintenance of society, and that the laws of our country and state are based upon the Mosaic Law in the Bible;

"Whereas, there is evidence that the laws prohibiting the distribution and use of intoxicating drink in the county are being abused by some of the citizens of the county and, or others;

"Whereas, the law enforcement officers of the state, county, and town of Prentiss, are hampered in the proper enforcement of these laws by their wilful disobedience and disregard;

"Whereas, we the members of the Bethany Church believe that the use of intoxicants in the form of beer, wine, whiskey, or any other product is essentially wrong and against the will of God for the Christian;

"Be it therefore resolved that the Bethany Church publicly express her opposition to the violation of these and all other laws of the county, state and nation;

"Be it also resolved that we encourage and uphold the officers of the law in their enforcement of the laws, and pledge to them our support as long as the laws are enforced without showing favoritism or partiality to any individual or group."

Medical Missions Conference Scheduled At FMB, Richmond

"Toward the Healing of the Nations" is the theme of a medical missions conference to be held at the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board headquarters in Richmond, Va., April 2-3.

The conference is planned for persons in eastern states who are interested in Christian missions and the healing sciences. Students and practitioners in medical, dental, nursing and paramedical professions as well as hospital administrators and Baptist campus ministers are invited, according to Miss Edna Frances Dawkins of the Foreign Mission Board.

The conference will include a dedication service for four men who will work in Baptist Hospitals overseas this summer under the board's medical missions receptorship program. The four are Baptist medical students who will have completed their second

or third year of medical school.

Several physicians and their wives who are seeking missionary appointment will attend the conference, Miss Dawkins said. Special conferences will be held for nurses and nursing students, medical and dental students and practitioners, and for wives.

Discussions will cover trends in medical missions, short-term pro-

grams, qualifications, and the missionaries' descriptions of their life and work.

Medical missionaries on furlough from widely scattered parts of the world will be available for counseling. Several will be principal speakers.

Interested persons should contact Miss Dawkins at the Foreign Mission Board in Richmond.

About 4 out of 5 families have at least one car, and 1 out of 3 has two or more.

There are black-and-white TV sets in 79% of U. S. homes, and 1 out of 3 families enjoys a color set.

More than 70% of American homes have a washing machine, and nearly 40% have a clothes dryer.



Broadman Book Dedication

Richard Milham, author of "Like It Is Today," a collection of paraphrased parables, shows daughter Julie the volume which he dedicated to her, Milham, pastor of Powers Drive Church, Orlando, Fla., places the parables of Jesus into contemporary language and settings. The book is available in Baptist and general book stores. (Photo by the Studio, Orlando, Fla.)

S.S. And Church Training Plan Adult Workshops

The Sunday School and Church Training Departments of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board will conduct four Adult Workshops in northern Mississippi the week of April 12-16.

Each Workshop is complete in one evening, beginning at 7:00 p.m. and ending at 9:00 p.m.

The purpose is to help leaders of adults in Sunday School and Church Training gain skills they need to carry out their responsibilities.

Those urged to attend the workshop most convenient are adult Church Training department directors, adult training group leaders, adult Sunday School department directors and outreach leaders, and adult Sunday School class teachers and outreach leaders.

The Sunday School section of the workshop will provide four confer-

ences: one for adult Sunday School department and class officers using Life and Work literature; one for adult Sunday School department and class officers using Convention Uniform Life and Work literature; one for adult Sunday School teachers using Life and Work literature; and one for adult Sunday Schools teachers using Convention Uniform literature.

The Church Training section of the workshop will provide actual practicing of skills needed to plan and conduct the kind of Sunday evening "programs" that will stimulate interest and increase participation.

The schedule of workshops is as follows:

April 12, First Baptist Church, Batesville; April 13, First Baptist Church, Greenwood; April 15, Calvary Baptist Church, Tupelo; April 16, First Baptist Church, Starkville.

One-Day Evangelism Clinic On Coast To Help Train Young People To Witness

The Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport will be the host church for an evangelism clinic on April 3 beginning at 9 a.m. The purpose of this clinic is to prepare Christian youth effectively to share Jesus Christ with the many high school and college students who will be visiting the sand beaches of the Mississippi Gulf Coast on Easter week end.

A Solid Rock Music Festival will be

held on April 10 in the Joseph Jones Memorial Park at Gulfport beginning at 8:30 a.m. All music will be Christ-centered, and the Christian Youth of the Gulf Coast area desire also to share Christ person to person during this encounter. "If the young people of Mississippi could be turned on for the Lord Jesus Christ, many problems in our city and state would be automatically eliminated," states Rev.

Charles Brock, pastor, Grace Memorial.

This clinic is not limited to youth alone — any adult who desires to be an effective witness for the Lord is also invited. The clinic will include approximately eight hours of study and then person-to-person witnessing. Please bring a "snack lunch", and the host church will furnish the drinks and cookies.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Mississippi Baptists Salute "Miss Ed"

No name in Mississippi Baptist circles is better known than "Miss Ed." No one in Mississippi Baptist life has to be told who this person is, and she is widely known far beyond the state, even literally to the ends of the earth.

Of course, for those who do not know, we hasten to say that "Miss Ed" is Miss or Doctor Edwina Robinson who is approaching retirement after 10 years of noble service as Executive Secretary - Treasurer of the Women's Missionary Union, an auxiliary of the Mississippi Baptist Convention.

On Tuesday night of last week "Miss Ed's" friends honored her with a special program and reception. The program was part of the annual WMU convention in Jackson. A "This is Your Life" type program was presented. A book had been written concerning her life by Wilda Fancher, Baptist Record columnist, and wife of Rev. James Fancher of Aberdeen. A check for more than \$9,000 representing gifts from thousands of friends was presented to her. In a special reception following the convention session, hundreds of friends gathered to pay a personal tribute.

"Miss Ed" has served Mississippi Baptists, Southern Baptists and world Baptists, since she first became Young People's leader for the WMU in 1933. In 1944 she became Executive Secretary. In 1948 she was asked to consider a place as Executive Secretary of WMU of the Southern Baptist Convention, but chose to stay in Mississippi. She served for several years on the Executive Committee of the Baptist World Alliance.

"Miss Ed" will leave numerous monuments to her work, as she steps down from the secretarial office in a few weeks. One is the strong WMU pro-

gram which has been built in the state under her leadership. Another is Camp Garaywa, the WMU Camp which was built largely through her untiring efforts and unflagging spirit, after World War II. Still another is that imprint of love and challenge which she has left in thousands of hearts, young and old.

All of us who have worked alongside "Miss Ed" thank God for her, and for the life she has lived, and the ministry she has given to Baptists. The world is a better place because of the devoted leadership she has given to the position in which God placed her.

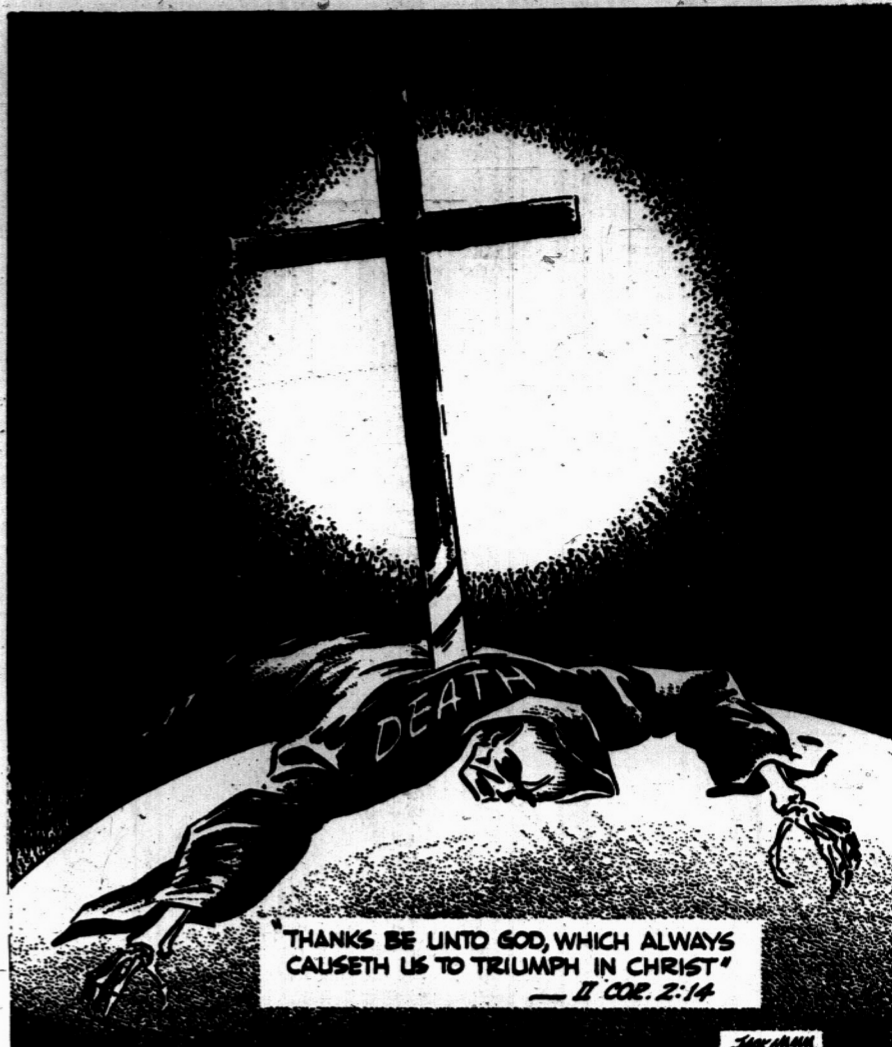


Thank You, Gentlemen!

Some months ago, we stated editorially that one action which should be taken by the current session of the legislature was the passage of an implied consent bill, which would make it easier for law enforcement officials to get drinking and drunk drivers off the highways and streets.

The legislature has just passed such bill, and we join with thousands of other Mississippi citizens in saying "Thank you!" This legislation will save lives, perhaps hundreds of them in years ahead, and any action which will do that is worthy of praise.

While the bill will not go into effect for another whole year, in order to enable the Highway Patrol and other police departments to get ready for implementing it, we still can rejoice in knowing that such enforcement is coming.



Prelude To An Empty Tomb

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Praises Pastor And Song Leaders' Clinic

Dear Dr. Odle,

A few days ago it was a privilege to host a Pastor and Song Leader's Clinic, sponsored by the Church Music Dept. and inspired by Mr. Dan Hall. I want to take this opportunity of saying publicly, thanks to Mr. Hall for his efforts to revitalize the church-gathered experience of worship. The ideas, techniques, and general soul searching that was set in motion by this clinic has restored to our fellowship the joy and vitality of worshiping God. This clinic was the most helpful I have shared in for a number of years.

In our day when worldly pressures are felt by every member of the church the restoration of the elements of joy needs to be restored to the heart of our worship services. Nothing speeds spiritual deterioration faster than the curse of sameness, especially if this sameness is dead.

May God grant that more people in Miss. will catch some of the thrill of worship that is in the heart of our beloved friend, Dan Hall.

Don Henderson, pastor
Emmanuel Church
Grenada, Ms.

Disagrees With Mr. Atkinson

Dear Editor,

In reference to the letter from Mr. D. L. Atkinson of Indianola in the March 18 Record, I can understand how Mr. Atkinson might determine that it is God's will for him not to participate in social racial mixing, but it appears quite presumptuous for him to decide what God's will is for everyone else. I'm sure he realizes that some of the finest Christians of Caucasian background have deemed that it was not outside the will of God for them to marry those of Chinese descent or of Indian descent.

Also, maybe it would be enlightening to many of us as Mississippi Baptists to realize that some of the most spiritually alive churches in the Southern Baptist Convention have removed all racial barriers to membership and participation because of their conviction that it was God's will. Most are reporting rich spiritual blessings.

Sincerely,
H. S. Kinard
1717 Brooklane Drive
Hattiesburg, Mississippi 39401

Responsible Journalism

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading a letter by D. L. Atkinson, printed under "The Baptist Forum" in this week's Record. The letter has no redemptive value, adds only to stronger polarization of attitudes, and is totally unbiblical in its main theme.

As one who espoused responsible journalism in regard to the Mississippi State incident, pled for Southern Baptist publications to be biblical in regard to our literature and volume one of Broadman Commentary, and exhorted Southern Seminary to be more careful in order to avoid divisiveness, you have acted in a manner diametrically opposed to said exhortations by printing Mr. Atkinson's letter.

John Gilbert
Moorhead, Miss. 38761
(The Forum is open to all of our readers. Since not all Mississippi Baptists agree we receive letters with varying points of view. It should be remembered that they represent the views of the writers and not of the Baptist Record. If we publish only one side, then the letter column no longer would be a forum. The Baptist Record position is presented in the editorial columns.—Ed.)



A Woman's World Reaches Far

Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilda Fancher

Beyond the Ironing Board

There is a redbud tree in our back yard. On at least one spring morning every year I hear young voices out back, and I know the kindergarten classes from our church are gazing up at the fragile pinkness which has popped out of the barren limbs of the tree.

It is good to look at such pretties as a redbud tree in spring, to wonder how such bleak brownness can suddenly clothe itself in new spring pinkness, to wonder how it all began and how it all keeps going. But it is great to look at such pretties as a redbud tree in spring while someone explains how God made the world, specifically the redbud tree.

It is such a stance, the children hear from their teachers of the handiwork of God. They hear how He set life into motion and how His perpetuity of faithfulness keeps the life—principle going but the teachers use little-children words to explain eternal God-principles.

Last year one day I said to our middle son, "It won't be long until the redbud tree will be blooming."

"Mother, it's been blooming for a week," he said, but it sounded like, "How blind can you get?"

Where had my adult powers of observation been? Too busy to notice a redbud tree in full bloom. That's too busy. This year I've been watching.

Maybe we adults ought to make a few kindergarten field trips—or do something to remind ourselves about God's greatness. There's no better reminder than the loveliness of this season we're about to see burst into a living example of the new-life principle.

A redbud tree in spring is more than beauty to me. It is more than a tree. It is a truth.

EDUCATION—what's happening

Nothing is more grimly characteristic of a depleted age than the fact that man's finest minds are not being trained on his biggest problems.

Brains are being honed and mobilized on the largest scale for purposes connected to confrontation or destruction.

No comparable mobilization of human intellect and conscience is occurring on the level of man's greatest needs.

What is needed... is a rekindling of the human imagination—about life as man might like it, about the full uses of his intelligence to bring sanity and sensitivity to his world and to his art, about the importance of the individual, about his capacity for creating new institutions, discovering new approaches, sensing new possibilities.

—Norman Cousins, "The Case for Hope," Saturday Review, December 26, 1970

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NEWEST BOOKS

'Wilda Fancher Writes On Life Of Edwina Robinson

WHERE IS EDWINA? by Wilda Fancher (Order from WMU Dept., P.O. Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205; 115 pp., paper, \$1.00).

Dr. Edwina Robinson, after many years of leadership of Woman's Missionary Union work in Mississippi, comes to retirement on May 1, 1971. As a part of the observances honoring her at the annual WMU Convention in March, officials of the organization decided that it would be most fitting for the story of her life and work to be put in the permanent form of a book. Wilda Fancher, wife of a Mississippi pastor, and columnist for the Baptist Record, and long a friend of Dr. Robinson was asked to write it. The book was ready and made available at the service honoring Miss Ed during the recent convention, and now is available to the public. It tells in simple, yet moving fashion, the story of the molding of a young life as it was being prepared for service, the call of God to that place of service, and the dedicated leadership which lasted nearly two score

years. The record begins at the home in Magee, where Miss Ed's father was a doctor. Life in this little Mississippi town, the closeness of the family ties, and activity in the Baptist church are delightfully presented. College days were at Blue Mountain and further preparation came at the WMU Training School at Louisville. Many of the scenes in these busy, happy days are recorded. In between these experiences was a year of teaching, and a summer of working as a Training Union field worker with the late Auber J. Wilds. After Training School there were brief periods as a church secretary at First Church, Chattanooga and working with the First Church at San Marcos, Texas. In the summer of 1932 she was called back to Mississippi to serve as Young People's Secretary for the Woman's Missionary Union. This, of course, was the beginning of a long life of service to Mississippi Baptists. How a budget was worked out so that she could be called, is quite an interesting story. The book depicts a number of the most memorable incidents in the leadership of Young People, and of how that

work developed under her direction. The story of the dream of and building of Camp Garaywa takes several pages. Miss Ed, as she had come to be known across the state, became Executive Secretary-Treasurer in 1944. In 1948 the WMU of the Southern Baptist Convention sought her to become Executive Secretary of that organization, but she declined, feeling that God wanted her to stay in her beloved Mississippi. The record of her leadership, her ministry beyond the state lines, her world mission trips, and her service to the Baptist World Alliance makes an exciting story. The book contains numerous photographs, and includes tributes from many friends and associates. The book also tells of the very important part that Miss Robinson's mother, affectionately known as "Miss Prudie", played in her ministry, especially in her work at Camp Garaywa. The cover presents an attractive silhouette of Miss Ed, surrounding a globe, the world for which she lived, worked and prayed. This book will be a fitting possession, long to be treasured by many friends and associates of this outstanding leader.

Billy Sunday Speaks edited by Karen Galien (Chelsea House Publishers, 217 pp., \$6.95).

Without question Billy Sunday was one of the greatest evangelists of the first third of the twentieth century. His voice was heard all across America and tens of thousands of people "hit the sawdust trail" to follow Jesus Christ under his dynamic preaching. During his day the liquor crowd had no greater foe and his call to righteous living was message heard by multitudes. In this book the editor has collected sixteen of his best messages, included are his famous message on "Mother", his sermons to Men and to Women, his sermon on "Heaven" and others. Here one finds plain speech, empowered by the Holy Spirit, based upon a solid belief in the Bible as the word of God. Included are a biographical sketch, an evaluation of the man by Oral Roberts, a collection of his sayings, the evangelist's own story of his boyhood, and his conversion, plus a tribute to Mrs. Sunday.

"A Tired Old Cat Named 'Job'" by Lloyd W. Brown (Frontier Press, \$1.00). A series of cartoons about a parsonage and church cat. Each cartoon outline presents some religious philosophy.

Come Help Change the World by Bill Bright (Beverly, 207 pp., \$4.95).

The story of Campus Crusade and the world wide program it now has set for itself. Here is a group which began with witness to students, and expanded to lay evangelism, and other Christian ministry. The special emphasis is in seeking to reach high

school and college students, but the program goes far beyond that. Now these thousands of trained dedicated workers are seeking to saturate the world with the news of God's love and his forgiveness.

Metropolitan Tabernacle Pulpit by C. H. Spurgeon, Volume 16—1870 (Pilgrim Publications, Pasadena, Texas, 720 pp., \$6.75; Club rate, \$5.45).

Another in the series of 56 volumes of sermons by one of the greatest preachers of Christian history, Charles H. Spurgeon, Baptist pastor in London during the last half of the 19th century. Few men who have lived could take a text, organize its meaning in clearer fashion, and then gold-mine its truths and apply them to life, as could Spurgeon. Glancing through this volume one finds sermons on security, voices from glory, sin, the hereafter, holy living, building and many others. Here is a year of great preaching that will bless every reader. Everyone is on a text or longer passage of scripture. Few can preach like Spurgeon, and his type of preaching might not be so popular in our day, but here are presentations of truth which will enrich the modern pulpit as he prepares to stand before his people, and will bless the average reader who simply wants great study of selections of scripture.

The Broadman Commentary, Volume 3, 1 Samuel - Nehemiah (Broadman, 596 pp., \$7.50—special price for whole set)

Writers of this volume are 1-3 Samuel, Ben F. Philbeck, Jr., of Carson - Newman Col-

lege; 1 Kings, M. P. Matheny, Jr., Midwestern Seminary; 2 Kings, Roy L. Honeycutt Jr., Midwestern Seminary; 1 and 2 Chronicles, Clyde T. Francisco, Southern Seminary; Ezra-Nehemiah, E. W. Hamrick, Wake Forest University. There is an introductory section for each book or pair of books, with discussion of content, authorship, date, problems, other materials, and an outline. This is followed by a section by section commentary of the books. The authors do not deal with every verse, but do cover every section, having printed the entire text for each section. The material is not devotional, or homiletical, but simply presents an exposition of each section.

The Broadman Commentary, Volume 10 - Acts-1 Corinthians (Broadman, 397 pp., \$7.50, special price for whole set)

Authors of this volume are Acts, T. C. Smith, Furman University; Romans, Dale Moody, Southern Seminary; and 1 Corinthians, Raymond B. Brown, Southeastern Seminary. The general plan of the commentary is followed with an introduction to each book followed by commentary on entire book, section by section. The introductory sections provide material that largely is scholarly, yet it is presented in form to be of value to the average reader. The comments deal with paragraphs and sections, and not verse by verse. The value will not be so much in homiletical suggestions as in understanding what the text says and means.

Pakistan Missionaries Are Doing Gospel

Thursday, April 1, 1971

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE

By Isaac Gray
A Pakistani government official in the Noakhali District of East Pakistan observed Southern Baptist missionaries sinking tube wells and became interested in the work of the Baptist Mission of East Pakistan and especially that of the Christian Agricultural Center.

As a result the Pakistani government invited Carl F. Ryther, agriculturist from Belle Fourche, S. D., to become an unofficial member of its highest-level planning committee in the realm of agricultural rehabilitation. This means he has the opportunity of working in an advisory capacity with the government officials who are planning the rehabilitation work for the areas affected by the tragic November cyclone, tidal wave and floods.

By early February, five of the six Southern Baptist missionary men currently in East Pakistan had sunk 204 tube wells so the people might have a pure water supply, distributed 2,300 blankets, and provided tin roofing sheets to 200 families in districts most affected by the catastrophe. But what is this among so many when the need is in the tens-of-millions range?

It is superior qualitative service. It is not nearly enough, but it surely must say to the relatively few recipients that this is relief with love.

The results of the tragedy are still beyond calculation and comprehension. Beyond calculation because nobody knows, or can ever know, how many lives have been lost. Beyond comprehension because nobody can fully grasp the human dimensions of this single most calamitous event in the 20th century.

The immediate imperative of the missionaries is to help the Pakistanis in their dark period of despair. Southern Baptists are making this possible by their giving. By Feb. 19, they had provided \$24,272.59 through the Foreign Mission Board for relief in East Pakistan.

Beyond the current problem of sustenance, the missionaries envision a

plan of help which will eventually give the Pakistanis with whom they work a higher standard of living than they have ever had. And it is not just showing Christian love; it is being and doing Christian love.

Carl Ryther is uniquely prepared by nature, training and missionary position to help the people of this primarily agricultural country. Small of stature, with black hair and dark skin, he is able to move in and out among the people without becoming an object of curiosity.

Ryther is director of the Christian Agricultural Center, still in the process of being organized and built on a five-acre farm 12 miles from Faridpur on the Asian Highway. In addition to providing a demonstration farm, the agricultural center will include a building for preaching and teaching the gospel. It may also have an area for youth and other Christian retreats.

Farmers and their wives will be invited to demonstration sessions and helped with extension demonstrations on their own farms. Already in use are a cold storage and slaughter system and a marketing section for poultry, beef and vegetables.

"This center, while being a vital source of information to the local Pakistani farmer, will also be a place where he can be introduced to the Creator of all things," says Ryther.

Calling his work demonstration evangelism, the 42-year-old missionary says he is interested in personal Christian witnessing based on the premise that a true friend is a person whom you have helped in a time of need to help himself. "Thus, helped physically by action he can be helped spiritually by words," he explains.

"Most people whom I have met in East Pakistan are in need of food in both quantity and quality, based on nutrition value," he says. "In order to help them to help themselves; it is necessary to apply science to the soils, plants and animals to improve both the quality and quantity."

"I want people to learn the relationship between modern science and Christianity in every way possible."

Ryther is doing this day by day at the agricultural center at Faridpur and at a village near Dacca. The Faridpur center will attempt to carry out a unitary program, whereas the small plot of land adjacent to a reading room in the village is being used to show how a small plot of land

can be improved and crops rotated for an improved diet.

Since it is not possible to demonstrate all the fields of agriculture even at the center, Ryther works mainly in six broad categories: poultry, livestock, feed grains, production by mechanized farming, vegetable production and preparation, cold storage and marketing, and nutrition for both humans and animals.

He is experimenting with a small plot of high-yield rice, the seed of which was developed at the International Rice Research Institute in the Philippines. If this new variety doubles or triples the yield per acre, as expected, all of the first harvest will be used for seed.

The rice was a beautiful spring green when a typhoon struck the Faridpur area in late October with its solid sheets of wind-driven rain. Ryther has been too busy helping the victims of the November storm, which did little damage at Faridpur, to report on his rice experiment. But if it failed he will try again.

He says of the recent invitations to sit with high-level government planning committees, "This is almost a dream being fulfilled." Already he had been consultant to a government committee charged with rewriting elementary school textbooks. Since most Pakistani children never go beyond the elementary grades, the government considers it important to give them some principles of farming in their early years.

Carl and Jean Ryther are the only missionaries I have encountered who have two stations. They were living at Faridpur when a family emergency sent a missionary couple living in Dacca back to the States. The only other missionary couple in the East Pakistan capital was already overloaded with literature production, keeping books, running the guest house, and other duties.

The Rythers moved to Dacca, and Carl commutes back and forth over the 60 miles and three ferries. When all the ferries are running and on time and the Land Rover is operable the trip takes 5½ hours. To further complicate family life three of the Rythers' four children attend school in West Pakistan.

Commuting is not bad for Carl's agricultural project, however, for he takes beef, vegetables and eggs from the farm and sells them in Dacca—the equivalent of \$700 per week. The quality of his beef is revealed in the

fact that the Intercontinental Hotel in Dacca is one of his best and most regular customers. One can really appreciate Carl's beef after seeing the lony old cows poking along the streets of Dacca. And more especially after trying to chew some of the beef.

The Christian Agricultural Center is expected to be self-supporting as soon as full production is reached. Carl considers this economy to be a basic factor. Unless you make a profit you cannot draw the interest of the people.

In the small piece of geography where Carl works he does what he can about what may be East Pakistan's greatest tragedy, the massive over-population. He encourages the men he knows to have the vasectomy following the birth of a minimum of sons (girls don't count in Pakistan).

Birth control is stressed by the government, which pays the men for having the surgical procedure. However, not much control is being practiced, as evidenced by the swarms of small children and the mothers with two or more babies in arms.

A dark night in October, as winds raged and rain buffeted the house, I sat with the Faridpur missionaries amid flickering candles and listened as Carl told just how near they are to life and death.

Late one night he arrived at Faridpur—the only male missionary then on the station—to find a family in distress over the death of a woman. In their shock and grief the people had done nothing to prepare for the burial, which, according to law, must take place within 24 hours.

Time was running out as Carl took over the task of getting a coffin made. Then he washed the body while a missionary woman went to look for material for a fresh and pretty sari. Her dilemma: to use a new colored sheet or an old colored sheet. She gave a new one. "You soon run out of new sheets that way," Carl mused.

An ordained minister, he led a brief Christian memorial service, and sometime about 3 a.m. the burial was over, law and custom obeyed and observed and Christ preached.

Since mid-November Carl Ryther and the other men of the Baptist Mission of East Pakistan have lived with life and death and hunger and grief and mud and blood. Their only complaint: When the long day is over they have good food to eat and a comfortable bed on which to sleep.

Seminary's "Basic Curriculum" In Spanish For First Time

FIRST SPANISH COURSE — Raymond Rigdon, director of the Southern Baptist Seminary Extension Department (left) presents the first copy of the department's new "basic curriculum" course translated into Spanish to Arthur B. Rutledge (right) executive secretary of the SBC Home Mission Board which coordinates SBC work with Spanish-speaking people in the U.S.A. The course is designed especially for pastors with less than college education. Applauding the presentation are members of the administrative committee of the department—Seminary presidents Robert Naylor and Duke McCall (front row), and Harold Graves, Olin T. Binkley, and Grady Cothen (second row, left to right).—(BP) Photo

First, Birmingham, Says Issue Was Not Race

BIRMINGHAM (BP)—The deacons and members of First Baptist Church, Birmingham, have issued a lengthy statement saying that "race was not the main issue" in a controversy that split the church last October.

It was the first official statement of the church and its deacons had issued since the issue erupted in July of 1970 when two Negroes, Mrs. Winifred Bryant and her daughter, Twila, sought membership in the church.

From July until December, the church came within a few votes of asking the staff to resign and later voted to reject the Negro applicants. When the staff resigned in protest, about 300 members walked out to organize a new congregation which in December was chartered as the Baptist Church of the Covenant.

On Feb. 24, the First Baptist Church issued a statement saying that race was not the main issue, but rather the leadership of Herbert Gilmore, former pastor who now is pastor of the Baptist Church of the Covenant.

"The church was severely divided about Dr. Gilmore before the black persons ever came forward for membership," the statement issued by the church said.

"The division involved his refusal to visit shut-ins and elderly members despite repeated requests to do so; his approach to children evangelism; problems with staff personnel which led to the resignation of several long-time staff members; his liberal and humanistic preaching which de-emphasized the Bible; and his failure to promote evangelism," the statement continued.

"The church also had financial problems which included the moving of church staff offices to a new area with new furnishings at an expenditure of \$27,000 when only \$6,000 had been authorized by the deacons and the church," said the statement.

Gilmore, responding to the statement issued by the church, said he regretted that the church "has not yet faced up to the real issue that divided the membership. The simple truth is that when two black people, who were the fruit of the church's ministry, tied to join the church, they were rejected."

"Whatever shortcomings the pastor may or may not have had, he had nothing to do with the church's rejection of the two blacks," Gilmore continued. "The church voted to exclude the blacks. That was the issue. When the First Baptist Church opens its membership to black people, then everyone can take seriously the charge that the issue was not race."

The chairman of the board of deacons at First Baptist Church, Bob Sanders, requested after a lengthy telephone interview with Baptist Press that all comments responding to Gilmore's remarks and giving background on the church's statement be considered "off the record."

Sanders, administrator of Hillcrest Hospital, said that statements from the church must be cleared by a press release committee, and that on checking with the interim pastor after the telephone interview, a decision was made that no comment should be made "that might be harmful to the church and upset the people."

Sanders said that the church would stand on the text of the statement approved by the deacons and the church. The statement said, in part:

"Over the last several months, the First Baptist Church of Birmingham has received much publicity which the present members of the church neither sought nor wanted. The church has been silent until now, as we felt that our problems were problems to be decided within the church and not in the newspapers or on the radio or TV."

The statement charged that the issue was not race, but the leadership of Gilmore as pastor, and added that Gilmore made no effort to reach solutions; and refused to resign.

"Before the black persons came forward for membership," the statement continued, "the church had never prayed about open membership; there was no churchwide Bible studies, seminars or conferences held on this question. Dr. Gilmore was told by several leaders that the church was not spiritually prepared to vote on the membership of black persons. He refused to listen to these members and insisted on a vote. Numerous members have insisted that they voted against the black persons because they felt this was another effort on the part of Dr. Gilmore to further divide the church."

"Two hundred thirty-nine resident members of First Baptist withdrew their membership and formed another church under the leadership of Dr. Gilmore. Eight hundred forty-eight resident and 521 non-resident members remained at First Baptist. During January and February, 1971, 17 members joined First Baptist by letter and 10 were baptized."

"Despite the loss of membership and staff leadership," the statement said, "there is evident at First Baptist Church a new willingness on the part of all members to serve wherever they are needed. Ministries to the deaf, senior citizens and the people of Central City have continued. The tutoring program for both black and white students at the neighborhood school has been reorganized and is underway again in a more effective manner."

"Attendance at the women's meetings and at the Wednesday night family supper and prayer meeting has increased. Sunday School attendance is averaging 33 fewer per Sunday. We gave \$6,400 to the December Lottie Moon Offering for Foreign Missions against a goal of \$4,250. The church has subscribed \$160,340 toward its 1971 budget," it continued.

After expressing appreciation to those who have preached at the church since Gilmore left and to A. Ben Oliver, former Southern Baptist missionary to Brazil who has been called as interim pastor, the statement concluded by saying:

"We do not know all the reasons for that which has occurred in recent months. We do know that the Bible teaches us to forget those things which are behind and to reach forward to those things which are before. We believe the Bible to be the Word of God and the basis of our faith. We ask for the prayers of all who believe as we do as we search out the pastor God has chosen to lead this church."

"God honors those who honor His Son and His Word. God is not dead. Neither is the First Baptist Church of Birmingham, Ala.," the statement concluded.

P. Boyd Smith, California College President, Dies

RIVERSIDE, Calif. (BP) — Funeral services were held (March 9) for P. Boyd Smith, first president of California Baptist College who died in a local hospital at age 75.

Smith was president of the Baptist school here from 1950-57. He was pastor emeritus at First Southern Baptist Church, Glendale, Calif.

A graduate of Oklahoma Baptist University, Shawnee, with an honorary doctorate from Howard Payne College, Brownwood, Tex., Smith was pastor of churches in Burden, Kan.; Dewey, Okla.; Okemah, Okla.; and Lawton, Okla., before coming to California in 1940.

Public Affairs Committee Eyes IRS Church Probes

WASHINGTON (BP)—The Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs took action on two matters of concern to churches and maintaining religious liberty during its semi-annual meeting here.

Authority was given to John W. Baker, acting executive secretary of the Baptist Joint Committee, to represent the committee at any hearings the Internal Revenue Service may call concerning federal guidelines on IRS examination of church books.

The committee also expressed its approval of the "spirit" of a bill presently before Congress on certain procedures to be followed in calling for a Constitutional Convention.

In taking such actions, the Baptist Joint Committee did not speak for the nine Baptist denominations that make up the committee, but only for itself.

In December the federal government released proposed regulations concerning limiting IRS examination of the taxable unrelated business income of churches. The regulations are proposed to carry out the new tax reform bill signed into law by President Richard Nixon.

The newly proposed regulations provide for no examination of the books of churches, conventions or associations of churches to determine whether or not they are engaged in unrelated trade or business.

An exception for such as examination, however, is provided for in the event that the secretary of the treasury or his delegate "believes that such organization may be so engaged (in unrelated trade or business) and so notifies the organization in advance of the examination."

Evenso, the proposed regulation says that no examination shall be made "except to the extent necessary to determine whether such organization is a church or a convention or association of churches." Further, the regulations says, "no examination of the books of account shall be made other than to the extent necessary to determine the amount of tax imposed" on the unrelated business income.

Some denomination executives representing Protestant, Jewish and the Catholic faiths, see the proposed regulations as "an open invitation to harassment" if the government wants this. Their concern has been communicated to a top official of the Treasury Department who said the

proposed guidelines will not go into effect without a public hearing.

In other action, the Baptist Joint Committee echoed its concern about the numerous calls from state legislatures and some national figures for a Constitutional Convention to rewrite certain parts of the constitution or to add amendments. Many religious leaders, civil libertarians and constitutional lawyers see the possibility of an "open" Constitutional Convention putting "up for grabs" some of the basic freedoms guaranteed by the Bill of Rights.

The Baptist Joint Committee action did not oppose the idea of calling for a Constitutional Convention. The committee did, however, endorse the idea of requiring that the purpose of calls for a Constitutional Convention be determined in advance.

Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr., (D., N.C.) is sponsoring a bill in the Senate to define the procedures for calling a Constitutional Convention and to limit the number of issues to come before such a convention. The Joint Committee action approves the spirit of Sen. Ervin's bill.

Although the present constitution allows the calling of a convention to consider amendments to it, many spokesmen here fear that the entire Constitution could be "junked" by certain interest groups if they were in control of such a convention. It is within the context of preventing the potential loss of basic rights concerning religious liberty and the inalienable rights of individuals that the Baptist action must be viewed, a spokesman for the committee said.

Baptists In Togo Dedicate Two Buildings

Coconut Grove Baptist Church in Lome, capital of Togo, has dedicated its new sanctuary and four-room educational building.

Southern Baptist missionaries from three other Francophone (French language) countries in West Africa, in Lome for a conference, attended the dedication along with government officials, businessmen and visitors from other churches.

H. Cornell Goerner, secretary for Africa for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, preached the dedicatory sermon.

The crowd overflowed the new sanctuary and most of the people gathered in the shade of a large tent set up for the ceremonies. Choirs of five churches, two Baptist and three of other denominations, were directed by missionary journeyman Wayne Bryan.

Coconut Grove Baptist Church (Eglise Baptiste de la Cocoterale, in French) was begun with a few young men attending Sunday night Bible studies in the homes of missionaries. A full program of Sunday and mid-week services was started in 1961 in the Baptist mission center. Now average Sunday School attendance is 130.

The church observed its first baptismal service in the new sanctuary Sunday evening following the dedication. Missionary G. Clayton Bond, former Mississippi Baptist, baptized seven persons, bringing to 45 the total number baptized since the church was founded.

Bill L. Bullington, missionary press representative in Togo, said the finished buildings are worth twice their actual cost of \$10,000 as a result of their being constructed under Bond's supervision.

Bullington reported that church members labored voluntarily during construction and paid for furnishings in the new buildings. Southern Baptists, through the Cooperative Program and the Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, contributed the \$10,000.

"The new buildings," he said, "mark a new phase in the growth of Baptist work in Lome. A new surge of growth is expected because of evangelistic opportunities the buildings have opened for the church's witness to Jesus Christ."



NEWLY DEDICATED SANCTUARY of Coconut Grove Baptist Church, Lome, Togo, with educational building in the background. Both units were constructed at a total cost of \$10,000 through mission gifts from Southern Baptists.—(Photo by G. Clayton Bond)

Names In The News

Dr. & Mrs. George A. Ritchey were honored by the membership of First Church, Mansfield, La., on February 23, with a reception and special program marking their 25th anniversary of service on that church field. Mr. Ritchey, a native of Mississippi, studied two years at Pearl River Junior College and two years at Mississippi College, where he graduated in 1929. On the MC football team he played in the second international football game in Mexico City in 1929. At MC he also won the gold medal for being the best extemporaneous debater in 1929. From Southern Seminary he received the Doctor of Philosophy degree in 1935. During World War II he served as a chaplain in the army, in India, Burma, China, and other places around the globe. (His work as a chaplain was featured in Life Magazine on September 14, 1942.) Mrs. Ritchey is the former Jonnie Stiles of Little Rock, Ark. The Ritcheys have two children and two grandchildren. In a recent issue, The Baptist Message of Louisiana carried a full page article concerning the work of the Ritcheys at Mansfield. Also, Dr. Robert L. Lee, executive secretary - treasurer, Louisiana Baptist Convention, in his column in The Baptist Message, commended Dr. Ritchey for his outstanding service. He said, "I could testify to the leadership Dr. Ritchey has generously given to all causes of his denomination. Association and District officer, president of the Convention Executive Board, trustee for 20 years on the Board of Southern Seminary, Clara Springs Encampment sponsor, various LBC and SBC committee memberships, supporter of Christian education and Baptist institutions, mediator and counselor in resolving Baptist problems, George Ritchey has stood tall and courageous, a rugged and stalwart example of Christian manhood and integrity, defender of the faith."

Rev. Jobe Miller has accepted the call as pastor of New Salem Church in Tishomingo County. He succeeds Rev. Bobby Burrows who resigned to accept a position as director of development at Blue Mountain College.

Dewitt Pickering, minister of music and youth of First Church, Newton, left for Juneau, Alaska, on Friday, March 19, to serve as music director for the revival crusade at First Church, Juneau. Rev. Hollis Bryant, native Mississippian, is pastor of the Juneau, First Church. First Church Newton has had a vital interest in the Juneau church since December 1966 when the Bryants went to Juneau. The Newton church has contributed approximately \$1,300 toward the building program of the capital city church, and the church was included in the Home Mission emphasis at First, Newton this year. In addition to the Home Mission offering goal of \$1,000.00, an additional goal of \$400 for the First Church Juneau's TV ministry was included. Mr. Pickering took the check for that amount to present to the Rev. Bryant on behalf of the Newton church. This is the second year that the Newton church has sent one of its staff members to assist the Juneau congregation in a revival crusade.

Dr. Swan Haworth, professor of psychology of religion at Southern Seminary, spoke March 22 at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. in Carson Newman's College's Henderson Auditorium, Jefferson City, Tenn. Dr. Haworth specializes in family and marriage counseling. He delivered his addresses as part of a lecture series established by the C-N Religion Department. Dr. Haworth is former pastor at First, Vicksburg, Miss.

To Preach In London

Pastor of First Church, Long Beach, Dr. Gail DeBord, is one of a group of ministers, primarily from Alabama, who have gone to London to spend eleven days preaching and teaching in the churches of the London Baptist Association.



The activities are a missionary effort sponsored by the various men and their churches in response to an invitation by the London churches through Dr. Lewis Drummond, Professor of Evangelism at Spurgeon College, London, England.

Plans were made to spend some time in Shakespeare country and also along the southern coastal area of England. Stops enroute included New York and Brussels, Belgium. The trip is taking place in two weeks prior to Easter.

Dr. Phillips R. McCarty, associate professor of Bible and religious education at Mississippi College, has been selected by the American Council on Education as an ACE Fellow in the 1971-72 Academic Administration Internship Program.

The Program, established in 1964 under a grant from the Ford Foundation, is designed to strengthen leadership in American higher education by enlarging the number and improving the qualifications of persons available for key positions in academic administration. Dr. McCarty's nine-month internship will take place at Mississippi College. He will be working directly out of the Office of the President, with assignments to other administrative offices as designated by Dr. Lewis Nobles, college president. The ACE selected only 30 persons for the program during the 1971-72 school year after receiving nominations of 94 individuals by ACE member institutions.

Counselors for the summer sessions at Ridgecrest Assembly, Ridgecrest, N. C., and Glorieta Assembly, Glorieta, N. M., have been named by Bill Clemmons, director, program of vocational guidance, Southern Baptist Sunday School Board, here. A Donald Bell, professor of psychology and human relations, Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex., will serve as counselor at Glorieta Assembly, Glorieta, N. M. Serving during all summer sessions at Ridgecrest Baptist Assembly will be Robert W. Darby, a graduate student in the field of counseling at New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary.

Mrs. Mada K. Means, mother of Frank K. Means, secretary for South America for the Foreign Mission Board, died March 16 in Fort Worth, Tex. A funeral service was scheduled for March 20 at Mount Washington Baptist Church, Kansas City, Mo. Mrs. Means, formerly of Kansas City, was living in Fort Worth with a daughter, Mrs. Ralph L. Smith.

Rev. and Mrs. Gerald Riddell, missionaries, were scheduled to leave Chile on March 1 for a short furlough in the States (addresses: c/o James Riddell, 1604 W. Spurgeon, Fort Worth, Tex. 76115).



Miss Olive Allen poses with 4 and 5-year-olds enrolled in the kindergarten at Grace Baptist Church, Saigon. Miss Allen directs Vietnamese Baptists' day-care programs. Besides the kindergarten at Grace Church, a day-care project is underway in Camranh. (Photo by Rondal D. Merrell, Sr.)

care programs. Besides the kindergarten at Grace Church, a day-care project is underway in Camranh. (Photo by Rondal D. Merrell, Sr.)

Kindergarten Is A First For Vietnam

Baptists in Vietnam have launched a program of day care for young children of working parents. Many of the children ordinarily would be left at home, often to roam the streets.

Pilot projects were begun last fall for the development of day-care centers and kindergartens under the direction of Miss Olive Allen, a Southern Baptist missionary from Elizabethton, Tenn.

Miss Allen, who for 10 years directed a Baptist kindergarten and teacher training program in Thailand, went to Vietnam in 1969 to lay foundations of the childcare program.

The Vietnam Mission (organization of Southern Baptist missionaries) administers the program through the Vietnam Baptist Theological Seminary in Saigon. For a year Miss Allen instructed eight young Christian women in teaching methods for kindergarten and day-care work including courses in child psychology, hygiene, music, Bible and English.

The trainees began kindergarten work as a seminary-church pilot project at Grace Baptist Church in Saigon. Miss Allen placed three of her workers there in a one-year, on-the-job training laboratory.

The kindergarten is a first for Baptists in Vietnam, for the church and for the three women. Of 36 children

enrolled, all are Vietnamese except one missionary child and three Vietnamese-American children.

Besides the one missionary child and one from a Catholic family, all the children are from Buddhist families or from homes where no religion other than ancestor worship is practiced. Parents pay 500 piasters (about U.S. \$1.80) monthly for the nine-month term, after paying an entrance fee of the same amount.

Simultaneously with the kindergarten opening, a day-care center was opened at Camranh for children 2½ to 5 years of age. The center draws its children from a nearby, crowded housing project. U. S. Army and Air Force personnel built the existing structure.

Here 33 children are enrolled for the first term; the center can accommodate only 40 with its present facilities. Miss Allen at times travels to Camranh to check on her two trainees there and give them direction.

At the end of this year, Miss Allen says, she hopes to turn over her workers, equipment and methods to Grace Baptist Church in anticipation that they will continue the program on their own. She plans to introduce kindergartens in other churches before retiring from overseas service in 1973.

Series Instrumental Auditions Planned

A series of instrumental auditions will be conducted in the state soon under direction of Aubrey Gaskins, minister of music of Harrisburg Church, Tupelo.

The schedule follows:

First Church, Brandon, April 15; Carey College, Hattiesburg, April 16; North Greenwood, April 30, the time for each to be 4:30-7:00 p.m.; and Harrisburg, Tupelo, May 1, 10:00 a.m. - 12 noon.

Openings for two trumpets, one baritone, one trap drum set, one guitar (accompanying type).

This group will be guests at Glorieta Assembly during Home Mission Week, August 5-17, when Dan C. Hall, state music director, will be in charge of the music.

They are to rehearse July 29-August 1, Harrisburg Church, Tupelo, and will be guests in the homes there, and will leave Tupelo, August 2, and will return August 14. They will perform on their way to and from Glorieta.

Husband-Wife Team Have Served Blue Mountain For Total 33 Years

By Marguerite Hill

At Blue Mountain College, ten husband and wife team serve as members of the faculty, the administrative staff, or the maintenance staff.

One husband and wife team, the college business manager and the manager of the College book store, Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Guyton of Blue Mountain, have served for a combined total of 33 years - he, for 13 years, the business office accountant, and for six years, business manager, and she, for 16 years, manager of the book store. Each of the members of this team is a former student of Blue Mountain College. The two drive from their local residence each day to the college.

Mr. Guyton, is a native of Blue Mountain, and Mrs. Guyton, the former Mildred Myrick, is a native of Lumberton.

When Mildred Myrick of Lumberton entered the freshman class at Blue Mountain, she did all other students in the late '30's, found special pleasure in going to the "City Drug Store" of Blue Mountain, where light orders, fountain service, and notions were always available for local customers and many students of BMC.

In addition to the attraction of the tasty foods and desserts, served so graciously by the clerks in the "City Drug Store," there was a certain young man who worked on the clerking staff that served with special care and recognition all small children who came for ice cream cones, school supplies, and gifts. He, also, took a special interest in fitting the needs of elderly customers.

However, the tall blue-eyed blond young clerk, D. H. Guyton, was very polite and kind to the students of BMC when they entered the store for service at the tables, magazine racks, gift shelves, and cosmetic division.

One day a tall blue-eyed blond BMC student entered the "City Drug Store" made some purchases, ordered her favorite flavor of ice cream. When she left, a relative of the young man in the store said to Dick Guyton, "I have chosen the student I want you to marry for dates and if it's God's will, I want you to marry her."

The young clerk said, "I hope she is the same one I'm already interested in."

They exchanged information and the two selections turned out to be the same - Mildred Myrick of Lumberton. The couple married in 1938.

Together, they have served as co-sponsors of the BMC freshman class



Business Manager D. H. Guyton, left, assists his wife, book store manager at Blue Mountain College, as she looks over a new sample order book which includes many interesting items to be purchased by students of the college. Mrs. Guyton, the former Mildred Myrick, clearly remembers the items she liked to purchase from the BMC Book Store during her student days.

for eight years; as co-sponsors of the sophomore class; and as advisors of the Baptist Student Union Council. He has served, not drug store food, but, in the classroom as accounting teacher, as one in charge of the student bank, the manager of the up-keep of college buildings, one who has custody of accepting money for college bills and paying them, and one who provides conveyance to and from airports, bus stations, and trains, when homegoing is possible. She has served as the manager of the college book store, now located in new headquarters of the Paschal Student Center, where, assisted by a small student staff, she sells textbooks, booklets for seasonal pleasure, school supplies, college office supplies, gifts, and Art Department items.

Together, this husband and wife team, not only place the college students first in their work, but they place above all their services to Lowrey Memorial Church - he, as a deacon, church treasurer, and Sunday School teacher, and she, as superintendent of the Beginners' Department of Sunday School and an active helper in various activities and church organizations.

Together, they frequently open their home to members of their church family, the book store clerks, members of the college faculty, staff, and

Bible Work Opening Up In Communist-Dominated Countries

NEW YORK - New openings for Bible work in Eastern Europe make work in communist-dominated countries more "encouraging" than in many years, the Rev. Sverre Smaadahl of Geneva, Switzerland, regional secretary consultant for Eastern Europe for the United Bible Societies, declared here.

Mr. Smaadahl, a Norwegian national who received his master of sacred theology degree from Yale Divinity School, was in this country for administrative meetings of the United Bible Societies held at the American Bible Society, 1865 Broadway. The United Bible Societies is a worldwide fellowship of 50 national Bible Societies.

While the extent of Bible work varies, Mrs. Smaadahl said it is carried on in all Eastern European countries, with the exception of Albania, where "religion is forbidden."

Because there have been no fresh supplies of Scriptures for decades in the majority of the countries and churches have lost many of their privileges, he said, "Christians in Eastern Europe have experienced what it is to live under the Cross." Christianity "has survived."

In a "most realistic way" churches have been thrown back to the Biblical message as the final basis for Christian faith and life. "A deep love for the Bible has emerged, which has made the deep and uncovered needs for Holy Scriptures even greater," he continued.

Enumerating new openings, last year Mr. Smaadahl said the United Bible Societies has contact with 13 translation projects including four in Yugoslavia, three in the Soviet Union, two in Czechoslovakia and one each in Bulgaria, Hungary, Poland and Rumania.

(Some countries have more than one translation project because several languages are spoken there).

Contacts are made in several ways. Translation literature is sent outward with scholarly editions of the Bible. European secretary consultants and translation specialists visit the various communist countries. Eastern European translators take part in training courses in the West, and training courses and consulta-

local friends. They have two sons: D. H. Guyton, Jr., vice-president, Citizens Bank, Meridian, and Barney Jo, a member of the Blue Mountain High School faculty.

tions for translators are held in the East, he told.

Scriptures are made available in countries where the churches have requested them, either by having them printed in their own country or having them printed elsewhere and imported.

In East Germany Scriptures have been published to meet the needs there since 1945 and some German Bibles have been exported. A annual production now totals 350,000 copies.

Scriptures have been produced regularly in the past 20 years in Hungary, although the total of 255,000 Scriptures produced between 1949-1970 has not been adequate, he said. A total of 120,000 Bibles and New Testaments were produced in Russia since 1956.

While he termed production in Czechoslovakia "very limited and irregular" up until 1968, a total of 122,000 Scriptures were produced in Prague and Bratislava during the last

two years.

There was no production in Rumania prior to 1967, but since then 100,000 Bibles were printed in Bucharest. Currently 40,000 New Testaments are under production in Rumania.

A production of 50,000 New Testaments is expected in Bulgaria when new translation is finished in the foreseeable future, the United Bible Societies secretary said.

He added that because of standing licenses Bibles have been going to Poland and Yugoslavia since 1945 at the annual rate of 120,000 Scriptures to Poland and 25,000 to Yugoslavia.

For the first time under communism Bibles were imported into Czechoslovakia and Rumania, 41,000 to the former country in 1970 and 10,000 to a Protestant church in Rumania this year.

Mr. Smaadahl said that the 750,000 copies of the Scriptures which were made available in different ways, in Eastern European countries in 1969

might seem slight in light of the 350 million inhabitants. However, compared to the situation five years ago, it is a real breakthrough for Bible work in the communist countries.

The distribution secretary also explained the Bible work in Eastern Europe opens up the opportunity for interconfessional cooperation there. "Because it is considered a central concern in every church and yet neutral in politics" it fosters cooperation between the churches.

Labeling the opportunities to do Bible work in Eastern Europe a "task of highest priority," Secretary Smaadahl said:

"Only when we use the existing opportunities, will we be able to see new ones. With full awareness of the deep and uncovered need there still is in most of the Eastern European countries for the Holy Scriptures, we are thankful and glad for the doors which the Lord has opened for us."

Memphis Church Moves To Mississippi

Longview Heights Church, Mallory St., Memphis, Tenn., recently sold its church property and bought a 5 acre site on Goodman Road, east of the Interstate 55, in Desoto County, Miss. The church was constituted in 1927.

On Sunday afternoon, March 14, a special "ground-breaking" service was observed on the new site to dedicate the ground for the purpose of a Baptist church. Plans are being made to begin immediately to build their first building and when this is complete, the church will officially move to their new place and will become a part of the Desoto Baptist Association. They will retain their same name.

Several from the Desoto Association and from the church participated in the special ground-breaking service: Rev. Ervin Brown, Supt. of Missions, expressed words of welcome; Rev. Jack Nazary, Moderator, read the first scripture passage on the site; Rev. Ned Davis, led in the first prayer (Chairman of the Assn. Missions Committee); and Rev. Earl Whitsett, interim pastor, led the group in the Vows of Dedication; the two trustees, R. S. Call and K. T. Robbins, with Whitsett, turned the first spades of

dirt. Rev. R. C. Cannon, pastor, First Church, Horn Lake, led in the closing prayer; Charles Dorroh, music director of the Horn Lake church, led in several songs. (Nazary is pastor of Colonial Hills church, Southaven; Davis is pastor, Mineral Wells Church.)

In the picture left to right: the first man with the shovel is Rev. Earl Whitsett, interim pastor, Longview Heights church; next man, R. S. Call, a trustee;

next man to Mr. Call (without shovel) is K. T. Robbins, a trustee. The lady standing just to the right of Mr. Whitsett, is Mrs. Lockie Ross, one of the original charter members of the church. (Her address: 501 E. Davant, Memphis.)

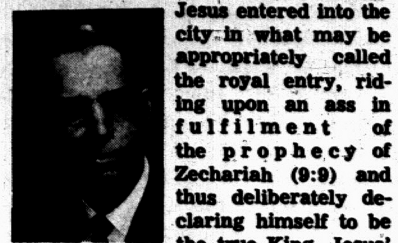
The church had over 800 members at one time. They have less than 50 active resident members now. They sold their property to a Negro Seventh Day Adventist congregation.



Christ Acclaimed and Rejected

By Clifton J. Allen
Matthew 21:1-17, 23-45

The setting of this lesson is the beginning of the week of the crucifixion of Jesus. It was the Passover season.



Jesus entered into the city in what may be appropriately called the royal entry, riding upon an ass in fulfillment of the prophecy of Zechariah (9:9) and thus deliberately declaring himself to be the true King. Jesus' act was a demonstration of pure courage, for he knew that the religious leaders were determined to bring about his death. Our larger Bible lesson tells of the cleansing of the Temple, which brought him into open conflict with the religious hierarchy. The crowds were enthusiastic in their praise, but the rulers of Israel challenged his claims and rejected his authority.

The Lesson Explained
Acclamation By The Crowd
Verses 9-11

What Jesus did was an acted-parable. How different from the monarchs of earth! He did not enter Jerusalem in a display of pomp and power, as proud victor over enemies, with captured slaves and spoils of war. He entered Jerusalem in humility and peace. He presented himself as the true King by virtue of what he was as

the Son of God and by virtue of what he would accomplish by his death and resurrection. He was declaring the nature of his kingdom, a kingdom not of this world. As Jesus rode calmly into the city, some of the crowd spread their garments and branches on the road before him; and the crowds preceding and the crowds following shouted their praise, "Hosanna to the Son of David." The terms used, "The Son of David" and "he that cometh," were messianic. For the moment, the crowds were acclaiming Jesus as the Messiah. But their acclamation was more enthusiasm than conviction and commitment. Sadly, a few days later some of them would join others, stirred to murderous hatred by the chief priests and elders, and cry out, "Let him be crucified."

Rejection By The Religious Leaders
Verses 33-45

Jesus' conflict with the religious authorities was open and direct. He responded to their challenge of his authority with parables to illustrate their perversity and the certain judgment of God. For one parable, he drew upon the parable of the vineyard in Isaiah 5:1-7. The meaning is as clear as can be. God expected the fruits of righteousness and faith from the chosen people of Israel. He sent his prophets repeatedly to declare his word and his will to his people. But the prophets were rejected and killed. Finally, God sent his own Son. He also was rejected and killed. Jesus knew the outcome

of his mission. He knew that he faced the cross. And yet this would not be failure. Though rejected and crucified, Christ would be acknowledged as the Chief Cornerstone. Jesus' hearers understood, but they would not repent.

The Unsettled Issue

Jesus Christ confronts the world now. He comes to the city of the present, in the midst of the multitudes; he comes to the religious establishment, to those who have declared themselves his followers and who claim to be the members of his church; and he comes to every individual, either directly or indirectly. Therefore, the issue is still unsettled for people of this generation. Is the response to Christ to be one of acclamation or rejection? Will people humbly acknowledge their sinful and helpless condition in the bondage of evil, their need for reconciliation with God, their inability to achieve moral victory and true self-realization apart from divine power, and their hunger for assurance of life after death and acceptance by God in eternity?

Truths to Live By

God took an awful risk in sending his Son. —God sent his Son into the world, fully aware of the indifference and hostility with which many would receive him, of the pride and enmity he would encounter, and of the heartless and cruel and violent rejection represented by the cross. But God in Christ knew that through death would come life, that through humiliation

would come exaltation, and that through the travail of the cross would come the redemption of the world to the praise of God's grace. God in Christ was willing to take the risk of giving himself, absolutely certain that by being lifted up on the cross he would draw men of every race and nation to himself and that the fruits of his sacrifice would be a redeemed humanity, the church of the living God, and the ultimate establishment of the kingdom of righteousness, joy, and peace.

Rejecting Christ results in terrible consequences. —The consequences of rejection take place now in a life of spiritual emptiness and frustration, moral inadequacy and weakness, and the very strong probability of involvement in covetousness, immorality, and despair. The certain outcome in eternity is the horror of torment as one is doomed to separation from God into the realm of death and bitterness forever.

The acceptance and acclamation of Christ should express full commitment and firm resolution. —There are persons who profess to be followers of Christ who shout hosannas of praise when it is popular to do so but heartless cries of denial when the confession of Christ will mean scorn or rejection or persecution. Let Christians find no consolation in the fact that there are false professors of Christ. In public, in one's family, and in one's business, in the company of faithful believers or in the company of cynical mockers of morals and Christianity, let each Christian dare to give a good reason for his hope in Christ. Let every Christian resolve that, always depending on the help of the Spirit, he will strive to represent Christ by word and by deed, by example and by work.

Norman College Trustees Vote To Close Operations

NORMAN PARK, Ga. (BP)—The board of trustees for Norman College has voted to close the Baptist-owned junior college and cease operations after its June 5 commencement.

The trustees also voted to ask the Georgia Baptist Convention to assume all assets and liabilities, and to consider using the property for a Baptist Assembly of South Georgia.

Called To Clarkson

Clarkson Church (Evanston) called Rev. Carl Morris as pastor on February 14. Mr. Morris was formerly pastor of Amity Church, Chickasaw County. He and his wife, Betty, have four children: Leon, Neil, Randy, and Danny.

Clarkson Church is holding a spring revival this week, March 25 - April 2, with the new pastor, Mr. Morris, as evangelist. Services are at 10:30 a.m. and 7 p.m.



Howell Speaks

Rev. Elmer Howell, State Baptist Brotherhood Director (center) spoke to the Brotherhood of First Baptist Church in Savannah recently on "Laymen in God's Work." Brotherhood officers from other Baptist Churches in Tate County attended. At left is Don Clanton, Association Brotherhood president, with Howard Carpenter, president of Brotherhood of the host church at right.

The United States Surgeon General, Dr. Jesse L. Steinfeld, recently proposed that smoking be banned in almost all public places. "It is high time," he said, "to ban smoking from all confined public places such as restaurants, theaters, airplanes, trains and buses. Non smokers have as much right to clean and wholesome air as smokers have to their so-called right to smoke, which I would redefine as a right to pollute."

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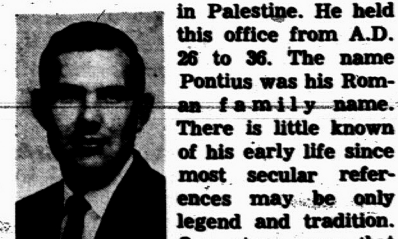
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God's King Before Rome's Governor

John 18:28-19:22

By Bill Duncan

Who was Pontius Pilate? Pilate was the fifth procurator, or governmental representative of the Imperial Rome in Palestine. He held this office from A.D. 26 to 36. The name Pontius was his Roman family name.



There is little known of his early life since most secular references may be only legend and tradition. One story says that Pilate was the illegitimate son of Tyrus, King of Maena who was sent to Rome as a hostage. In Rome, the story goes, he committed murder and was sent to Pontius of Asia Minor; when he subdued a rebellious people, thus he regained the lost favor of Rome and was awarded the governorship of Judea. It could have been true that he was trained for governmental service and was given the hard task of governing the troublesome Jews by Emperor Tiberius.

Generally the governors were in charge of tax and financial matters, but governing Palestine was so difficult that the procurator was directly responsible to the emperor. He held supreme judicial authority. Pilate did many things to upset the Jews. He did not understand the Jews. Josephus says that Pilate offended the Jews by bringing in Roman standards. He ap-



Lincoln Co. Sponsors Pastor-Deacon Supper

Pictured above are persons who took an active part in the recent Pastor-Deacon Fellowship Supper of the Lincoln County Association. Left to right: Jerry Clower, Director of Field Services, Mississippi Chemical Corp.; Rev. B. E. Padgett, moderator, Lincoln Association; Zack Moak, Director of Brotherhood for Lincoln Association. One hundred seventy five men from 27 churches gathered at Easthaven Church recently for this event. The Easthaven Church served a delicious meal in the Fellowship Hall. After the meal the men gathered in the sanctuary for the program. The Men's Quartet of First Church sang three songs. Then Jerry Clower was presented by Alcus Smith. Mr. Clower in his dynamic manner challenged the men to witness for Christ daily, and he also listed some requirements for an effective witness.

This fellowship of pastors and deacons of the Baptist churches of Lincoln County was sponsored by the Lincoln County Association. Rev. B. E. Padgett, moderator, and Zack Moak, Brotherhood director.

propriated some of the temple tax for an aqueduct. Luke 13:1 tells that Pilate ordered Galileans killed while sacrificing in the Holy Place.

The events at the trial of Jesus seem to say that Pilate was as clay in the hands of the Jews. At the feast of the Passover Pilate was there to keep order, most of the time he stayed at Caesarea. After the Jews had condemned Jesus in their own court, they brought Jesus to Pilate. The trial occurred early in the morning before normal court hours.

From the beginning to the end he was torn between offending the Jews and condemning an innocent person. He tried every way possible to set Jesus free. Jesus was declared innocent in the private interrogation. Because Jesus was living at Nazareth he sent Him to Herod who was in town. Herod, the governor of Galilee had Jesus scourged. This did not satisfy the Jews, so Pilate gave them a choice. The offer was a choice between a coarse insurrectionist and Jesus. When the chief priest played politics and cried, "We have no king except Caesar," Pilate turned Him over to them. Pilate is one of the many that lived by the philosophy of self-aggrandizement and expediency.

According to Josephus, the political career of Pilate came to an end six years after Jesus' death when he sent soldiers to Samaria to suppress a small harmless religious rebellion and some innocent men were killed. The Samaritans complained to Vitellius, legate of Syria who sent Pilate to Rome. Because Tiberius died while Pilate was on his way, home, he disappeared from the official history of Rome. The Roman historian Eusebius says he took his own life.

The real reason Jesus was brought before Pilate was that the Jews wanted to destroy Jesus but were forbidden by Roman law to inflict the death penalty. So upon the shoulders of Pilate rested the decision of what would be done with Jesus.

In trying to examine the life and message of Jesus, Pilate asked some rather important questions. "Art Thou King of the Jews?" But Jesus said, "You said it. But my Kingdom is not of this world." He even emphasized that "for this cause was I born." Pilate asked Jesus, "What is truth?" But Jesus did not answer. Pilate was

looking Truth in the eye and did not know it. He had heard Christ's claim, but his only question is, "What is truth?" These is no peace of mind when one does not know the truth.

Whatever desire Pilate had not to do wrong was wiped out by the fact that he did the wrong thing. The account by John seems to point out that if Pilate had been left alone to make his decision Jesus would have been freed.

Many of the People in our church are like Pilate. They do not want people to know they oppose the church, but they will not commit themselves to the church. Even though a person does not want the responsibility of passing judgment and condemning Jesus, he cannot escape the issue.

Pilate did not realize, like the people today, that he was condemning self. What one does with Jesus and His invitation will indicate exactly what God will do with him.

The Jews had a rule that during the Feast of the Passover they could not go into the political court. Therefore, Pilate went out to the Jews. This is strange religion! They were careful not to go into the courtroom which would make them unclean; yet they were planning the death of an innocent man in a similar case, the chief priest hired Judas and paid him to betray His Lord, but then was too ethical to accept this money when Judas returned it. So they called the money "blood money."

Like Pilate we cannot escape the responsibility of the decision, "What will you do with Jesus?" Neither can we be self righteous and place the blame of what happened to Jesus upon

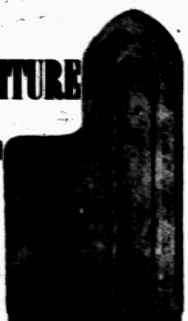
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Gulfport Proclaims P. S. Dodge, Sr. Day

April 25 has officially been proclaimed as Rev. Paul Sheltop Dodge Sr. Day in Gulfport. Ceremonies are to be held at Joseph W. Milner Stadium, Gulfport, beginning at 2:30 p.m.

The Gulfport mayor and board of commissioners proclaimed the special day in commemoration of the Baptist pastor's 55 years of service to the community. Mayor Philip Shaw read a proclamation at a recent City Council meeting urging the entire Coast community to join the people of Gulfport in honoring Mr. Dodge, pastor of Providence Church, at special services at the stadium.

The mayor read from the proclamation, "Rev. Dodge has by teaching, precept and example shown the way

to a better spiritual life to untold thousands of his fellow men and women." His devotion to the community over the past half century was described as "selfless, devoted and dedicated to God."

Mr. Dodge was pastor of Grace Memorial Church, Gulfport, for some 40 years. Upon his retirement he formed the Providence Church in North Gulfport in 1968 where he still serves as pastor.

He and his wife, Mrs. Mae Elaine Dodge, observed their 50th wedding anniversary on Dec. 13, 1967.

A trust fund has been started that will permit a needy student to receive a scholarship to be given in Mr. Dodge's name and used at the local junior college.



Mrs. Nan Francis (center) shows Ann Hollingsworth (left) and Beth Harper (right) a bread tray dating back previous to the Civil War. (Photo by Dave Allison)

"Turn Of The Century" Party Given

The Ladies I Sunday School Class of Immanuel Baptist Church, Hattiesburg, entertained the area Senior Citizens' Club with a "Turn of the Century" Party on Thursday, March 11. A large number of Senior Citizens from the community attended. They were Mrs. C. E. Strahan, Mrs. Pearl Darby, Mrs. Beulah Clay, Mrs. H. C. Jones, Miss Gilda McGee, Mr. Floyd Freeman, Mr. L. W. Jones, Miss Nan Francis, Mrs. D. D. Todd, Mrs. E. A. Havens, Mrs. L. B. Deen,

Mrs. Gladys Trigg, Mrs. L. W. Jones, and Mrs. Ira Miller.

Those members of the Sunday School class assisting were: Debbie Bright, Beth Harper, Diane Martin, Ann Hollingsworth, Mrs. C. B. Hamlet, and Mrs. E. E. Bright. Entertainment was provided by Mrs. Dorothy Ware who played the piano and sang a number of songs from earlier years. Susan Langston sang several selections, accompanying herself on the guitar. Miss Langston also gave the devotional.

Plainway To Celebrate Pastor's 21st Anniversary

On Sunday, April 4, Plainway Church, Laurel, will observe the twenty-first anniversary of the services of Rev. Harold C. Ishee as their pastor.

The church will mark the occasion with homecoming and dinner on the ground. Revival services will also begin on that day and continue through April 9, with Rev. T. R. Coulter, Jr. as evangelist.

Clarke College High School Day "Best In Years"

Dr. W. L. Compere states that the High School Day at Clarke College was one of the best that the school has had in many years. More than 200 guests were registered, including almost a hundred high school seniors and juniors.

A well planned program of activities was carried out under the direction of Mr. Woodrow Burt, Admissions Counselor, and a steering committee of students, with Miss Peggy Skelton as chairman. The activities included singings, conferences, campus, lunch at the cafeteria and a period of entertainment. Final feature was a baseball game. Clarke won over the visiting team of Southwest Junior College, Summit, 3-2.

Mr. Burt reports that a large number of the visiting students expressed keen interest in attending Clarke when they complete their work in high school. Alumni present numbered 22, and 41 parents, pastors and other visitors added enthusiastic spirit and inspiration to the special day.

MC Ministers' Wives To Meet April 6

The Ministers' Wives Association of Mississippi College will meet April 6 at 7 p.m. with Mrs. Russell McIntire at 218 Mt. Salus Dr., Clinton. The speaker will be Rev. Herman Milner, pastor of Van Winkle Church, Jackson. His subject will be "An Helpmeet for Him in Sharing Christ." The wives of all Mississippi College ministerial students are invited to attend.



Agricola Is Building New Pastorium

Agricola Church recently held a groundbreaking service for the construction of a new pastorium. The building committee and pastor are pictured above. Reading left to right: Rev. Bryce Evans (pastor); Lester Dean; Paul Bullard; Floyd Dean (Chairman of Building Committee) holding shovel; Benie Wall; Otha Shaw; Roy Dean; and Mrs. Kenneth Brown. (This is both Building and Finance Committee). The construction will be modern, and consist of four bedrooms, three baths, with approximately twenty-four hundred square feet of living area.

W. C. Taylor Dies

W. C. Taylor, 84, retired Southern Baptist missionary, died March 18 at his residence in Louisville, Ky. A funeral service was scheduled for March 20 at Walnut Street Baptist Church, Louisville, with burial in Bardstown, Ky.

Before their retirement in 1956, Taylor and his wife served in Brazil under the Foreign Mission Board for 41 years. He taught at Baptist theological seminaries in Recife and Rio de Janeiro and at the South Brazil Baptist Training School in Rio. From 1936 to 1940 he was the board's secretary for Latin America. He also took an active part in direct evangelism.

Taylor wrote about 20 books and various pamphlets and tracts in Portuguese, two books in Spanish and two in English. He was a member of the commission of the United Bible Societies for the revision of the Bible in Portuguese.

A native of Mayfield, Ky., Taylor received the bachelor of arts degree from Bethel College, Russellville, Ky., and the master and doctor of theology degrees from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex. He also studied at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, Louisville, and Princeton (N.J.) Theological Seminary. Before going to Brazil he taught at the Bardstown Baptist



From Greenwood

THREE STUDENTS from Greenwood look over the cap worn by students in the School of Nursing at Mississippi College during a tour of nursing facilities at the High School Day program. Conducting the tour and explaining the cap is student nurse Donna Norman of Meridian. Greenwood students with her, from the left, are Karen Cox, Sharon Clark, and Kathy Carroll. A record crowd was on hand for High School Day. (M.C. Photo by Joe Lee)

Institute and was pastor of churches in Kentucky, Texas, and Oklahoma.

Bisagno To Preach In County Revival In Greenville

Washington County Baptists are enthusiastically preparing for the Washington County Baptist Crusade for Christ to be held May 2-7, with the outstanding evangelist John R. Bisagno as speaker. Large crowds are expected to attend. Arrangements are being made for the crusade meetings to be held at the Washington County Recreation Complex just east of Greenville. This was originally the site of the Greenville Municipal Airport.

On March 4 Mr. Bisagno flew from Houston, Texas to deliver the inspirational message at a crusade rally which was held at Greenville, First Church with attendance in excess of 700 even though the weather was inclement.

In this past year since Bisagno became pastor of First Church, Houston, Texas the Sunday School attendance there has gained from an average each Sunday of 600 to 3,006 with more than 2,000 additions to the church, of which 1300 came for baptism.

He was the principal speaker for Thursday night, March 18 at the Nationwide Bible Conference held in Dallas, Texas. (He was asked to speak in Billy Graham's place when Dr. Graham became ill.)

Clarke Choir On Tour

The Concert Choir and Clarke College Singers, numbering more than 50, together with accompanists, J. M. McElroy, director, and Mr. and Mrs. Woodrow Burt, went on an extended spring tour March 21-26. They left Sunday morning for an engagement with First Church, Mendenhall, and were with First, Columbia, Sunday night.

Other engagements in their schedule were: March 22 — Columbia Academy, Sumrall High School, Seminary High School, Northeast High School, Laurel; South Jones, Ellisville; Kreole; March 23 — Vanceville High School, New Augusta High School, McLain High School, Leakesville High School, and North Hills Church, Pensacola, Fla.; March 24 — Wyomina Park, Ocala, Fla.; March 25 — First, Century, Fla.; First, Bagdad, Fla.; March 26 — State Line (Miss.) High School, Buckatunna High School and Wildwood, Laurel. Accompanists were Diane McMill and Janet Clark.

Devotional: A Parable

The Tragedy Of The Fruitless Life

By John Merck, Pastor, Rocky Creek, Lucedale

In the corner of the vineyard, protected by its walls, and nourished by its specially prepared soil, a fig tree had been planted. For two years the Lord of the vineyard has come eagerly expecting to see PROMISED FRUIT. For two years he has suffered disappointment. On the third year, his patience is at an end. The tree is a failure. It is exhausting the soil and hindering the other plants; and his sentence goes forth, "Cut it down; why cumbereth it the ground?" Since it had no fruit, it had no right to exist. THE ADVANTAGES THIS FIG TREE HAD. It was planted in the vineyard (best soil). It belonged to a certain man. It occupied a specially favored position. The fig tree had more than an average chance. Jesus reminded men that they would be judged according to the opportunity they had. Never has there been a generation entrusted with so much as our generation. "I have chosen you and ordained you that ye bring forth fruit."

THE OWNER'S EXPECTATION OF THE FIG TREE. He came and sought fruit from the tree. God expects fruit from those that have a place in His vineyard.

THE DISAPPOINTMENT OF HIS EXPECTATION. He found no fruit... none at all... he didn't expect much. He wasn't hasty. He had waited for three years. He certainly was disappointed in the tree. Not only was the tree fruitless... but it hurt... "It cumbereth the ground."

DOES GOD CALL FOR AND DEMAND FRUIT FROM EVERY LIFE? The answer is: HE DOES! There is no exception. Here is a word of terror to the careless and secure. Moreover, God will not take an excuse. Clearly the parable teaches us that uselessness invites disaster. This parable teaches that nothing can survive which only takes out and gives nothing in return (DEAD SEA). The fig tree was drawing strength from the soil; in return it was producing nothing. JOHN'S PREACHING was startling: "JUDGMENT," "FIRE," "THE AXE," "Thresh out the wheat! Gather the good, and burn the chaff. Flee the wrath to come." (Matt. 7)... "Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, and an evil tree cannot bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down and cast into the fire."

CAN EVERY NORMAL PERSON BEAR GOOD FRUIT FOR GOD? He certainly can. God's endowments have been richly given to every person. THIS PARABLE TELLS US OF THE GOSPEL OF THE SECOND CHANCE. A fig tree takes three years to produce. If it doesn't it isn't likely to produce. But, this fig tree was given a second chance to produce. Aren't you glad that God is long-suffering toward us, and gives another opportunity to serve Him?

THE DRESSER INTERCEDES FOR THE TREE. He did not pray, Lord never cut it down... but, prayed, Lord, give it another chance. God has His eye on those who hear the gospel to see if they are obeying it. Leaves will not do. Fruit must be produced. "And if it bear fruit, well; and if not, then after that thou shalt cut it down." The doom passed upon it (cut it down) at the last. The barren tree will certainly be cut down. The longer God waits and the more chances he gives... the greater the expectation. How long have you been planted in God's vineyard? Who is to blame for no fruit? Neither the dresser nor the ground, but the tree, which refuses to bear fruit.

There is in Palestine a wild olive tree called the Oleaster which bears no fruit. When I see a man or a woman taking up a large space in Christ's Kingdom and yielding no fruit, I say, "Ah, there is an Oleaster."

Russell Church Again Exceeds Giving Goal

Russell Church of Lauderdale Association, located just outside Meridian has again exceeded its goal for mission giving. The church exceeded their Little Mission goal in the month of December by giving a total of \$1034. The Anna Armstrong goal was \$775. March 21 the special Home Mission offering had already reached \$991. Rev. Michael K. Olmsted is pastor of this mission-minded congregation.

Revival Dates

Banner (Calhoun): March 28 - April 2; Rev. Johnny Parks, pastor of Camp Ground Church, Water Valley, evangelist; Rev. R. A. Coulter, pastor of West Side, Bruce, to direct the music; Becky Peden, pianist; Betty Swinney, organist; Rev. M. L. Swinney, pastor; services at 7:30 p.m.

Sunrise Church (Lebanon): Youth revival; April 7-11; at 7:30 p.m. with regular services on Sunday, April 11; evangelist, Rev. Larry Barlow, pastor of Briel Avenue Church, Natchez, (formerly of Petal and a graduate of William Carey); Rell Webber, director of music at Sunrise Church, and a senior at the University of Southern Mississippi; singer; Rev. Ray McCorkle, pastor.

Central Church, McComb, April 4-9; evangelist: Rev. Bill Cox, New Orleans, La., pictured; singer: Noxie Taylor, Jr., Louisville; services daily at 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. S. A. Adkins, pastor.

Cloverdale, Natchez; March 26-April 2; Rev. Warren Langworthy of Pascagoula, evangelist; music led by Monroe McManus of Southside Church, Montgomery, Alabama; services 10:00 each morning and 7:30 each evening. At the 2:00 p.m. service on Sunday, March 28, the Victor Trio of Monticello, sang. Former pastors and preachers ordained by the church were guest speakers. This week marks the first anniversary of the pastor of Cloverdale Church, Rev. James E. Messer. There have been 40 professions of faith, and 30 additions by letter, a total of 70 additions since March 28, 1970.

Vanceville Church: March 28-April 4; Sunday, March 28, was designated as "dedication day" celebrating the completion of a new educational building and the remodeling of the church sanctuary. The church served dinner on the grounds on March 28, and guests included the speaker for the week, Dr. R. H. Whittington, first vice president of Louisiana Convention, pictured. Paul Ball, music and youth director, Fulton Road Church, Mobile, Ala., is leading the singing. Dr. Whittington, is Chairman of the

Department of Religion at Louisiana College and pastor of St. Landry Church, St. Landry, Louisiana, having held both the positions for the past twenty-five years. Rev. Frank Lescallette is pastor.

Hickory Grove (Lauderdale): April 1-4; weekdays 7 p.m.; Sunday 10:45 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Ken Pegram, speaker; James Claybrook, song leader, both of Clarke College; Rev. Curtis L. Guess, pastor.

Eastside Church, Jackson: April 4-9; Rev. H. A. Milner, pastor Van Winkle Church, Jackson, evangelist; Herman "Butch" Milner, Jr., music director; services 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Howard Benjon, pastor.

Union (Scott): April 4-9; Rev. E. C. Tucker, evangelist; Rev. Parks Ware, pastor; services each night at 7:30.

Easthaven Church, Brookhaven: April 4-9, noon day services Monday-Friday, 12:05 - 12:30 in the downtown area at "The Jungle"; services nightly in the church auditorium at 7:00; Rev. David Millican, pastor of South McComb Church, McComb, evangelist; Bernie Parker, minister of music, First Church, Ozark, Alabama, singer; Rev. Charles Dampier, pastor.

Courland Church: youth Revival; April 2, 3, 4; Rev. Paul Bryant, evangelist; Jim Gunter, in charge of music (both) students at Clarke College; services nightly at 7:30 and on Saturday also at 10 a.m.; Rev. J. E. Thurmond, pastor.

Tylertown Church, Tylertown: April 4-11; Dr. Johnny Brigman, pastor; Dr. Gene Williams of Houston, Texas and Marion Warren of Euleus, Texas will lead the services (Dr. Williams, who has led more than 350 revivals and evangelistic crusades in this country will be the speaker). Warren will direct music. Weekday services at 7 a.m. and 7 p.m. The morning service will be broadcast over WTYL in Tylertown.

Brickwood Drive Church, Jackson: April 4-9; Rev. Al Finch, pastor First Church, Canton, evangelist; Charles Russell, music director Robinson St. Church, Jackson, singer; services 7:30 p.m.; Rev. Louis Smith, pastor.

Hebron (Grenada): April 2-4; weekend youth-led revival; Rev. Philip Caples, pastor of Midway Church, Vardaman, guest speaker; Terry Bailey, music director for youth, in charge of music; Lagathia Dunn, pi-

Buddy Mathis, Tom Lester To Speak At Neshoba Rally

Speaking at the Neshoba Baptist Youth Rally will be youth evangelist Buddy Mathis and popular television star Tom Lester. The rally will be at First Church in Philadelphia on April 3 at 7:30 p.m.

Buddy Mathis, who lives in Pascagoula, will bring the message. Although Mathis is only 16-years-old, he has preached to thousands of people. Already hundreds have been reached for Christ under his preaching and witnessing. Mathis has a tremendous talent for communicating with youth.

Also appearing on the program will be television star Tom Lester who plays the role of "Eb" on the program "Green Acres." Lester, a native of Mississippi, will give his testimony for Christ.

Special music will be provided by the youth choir of First Church and by Paul Ott Carruth of the Mississippi Game and Fish Commission. A program geared to youth is being planned by the Youth Committee of the Neshoba Baptist Association, states Frank Lay, Youth Director, Neshoba Association.

No man knows which year his income tax return will be checked, so he should always be prepared to give an account of his actions.—Richard Milham in *Like It Is Today*, a Broadman book

REVIVAL RESULTS

Calvary Church, Milton, Florida: March 19-21; fifty-two decisions reported; 28 professions of faith; twenty-four rededications, by letter, or for fulltime service; Buddy Mathis of Pascagoula, evangelist; Rev. Paul Martin, pastor.

Colonial Heights Church, Jackson: 47 professions of faith; one by letter, more than 100 rededications; Rev. David Walker, evangelist; R. L. and Beth Sigrest, music evangelists; Rev. Sam Mason, pastor.

Calvary, Augusta, Georgia: March 14-20; Rev. James Fancher, Aberdeen, evangelist; Rev. Wayne Riley, former Mississippian, pastor; 21 professions of faith, for baptism; 11 additions by letter; 35 rededications.

Harmony (Winston): March 10-14; youth revival; Dr. Paul Wilson, the church's new pastor, evangelist; Michael Rogers, church music director, in charge of music; five professions of faith; one addition by letter; one reinstated; one surrendering for fulltime Christian service; 15 rededications. (Twenty-eight young people helped in various phases of the revival. James D. Gregory, youth director, states, "The Holy Spirit worked among us; in fact, revival didn't end with that week, as we had six professions of faith the following Sunday, and one reinstated. Our Sunday school, Church Training, and prayer meeting attendance has climbed to unusual proportions as revival fires continue to burn.")